

Annual Report

ON THE

HEALTH & SANITARY CONDITIONS

OF THE

BOROUGH OF WEYMOUTH & MELCOMBE
REGIS,

FOR THE YEAR 1910.

—O—

BY

W. B. BARCLAY, L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Etc.,

Medical Officer of Health.

WEYMOUTH :
HARRY WHEELER, LTD.,
PRINTERS.

*To His Worship the Mayor, and to the Aldermen and
Councillors of the Borough of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis,
and to the Education Committee of the same.*

WEYMOUTH,
January, 1911.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

In accordance with Section XIV. of Art. 18 of the Local Government Order as to the Duties of the Medical Officer of Health, I have the honour of submitting to you my Sixth Annual Report on the health of the District.

As it seems to be a generally accepted idea, to which expression has been given, that the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health, apart from the vital statistics, should consist principally of panegyrics of his district, and that all sins of omission and commission should be strictly taboo, I give as a preamble to the Report, the Memorandum issued by the Local Government Board, through the Local Authority to each Medical Officer of Health.

I have to sincerely thank the members of the Council, and more particularly the Chairman and members of the Sanitary Committee for their uniform kindness throughout the year. The unfailing support I have received from the latter have rendered my duties lighter and made a difficult post pleasant. The Medical profession have, as always, willingly co-operated with me in the matter of Infectious diseases and all other matters tending towards the good of the Borough, and my thanks are extended to them also.

The many extra duties that have this year fallen upon me have been materially lightened by the assistance of my Deputy, Dr. Croker-Fox, who has at all times been ready to relieve me of the laboratory and other work in times of pressure. The loyal and whole-souled assistance of the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Fanner, and Nurse Lethbridge, who have worked at all hours and during holiday seasons, I cannot adequately express my appreciation of. The return of their work in the tables of this Report is but a slight index of the work they actually perform.

It is difficult to separate entirely the work of the Medical Officer of Health and the School Medical Officer, so constantly do they overlap and intermingle, and as the work of the latter develops, the importance of the combination of the two offices becomes more and more evident.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. B. BARCLAY.



*Provinces.**Memorandum as to Annual Reports of Medical
Officers of Health for 1910.*

Every medical officer of health, appointed under Order of the Local Government Board, is required to make an annual report with regard to each sanitary district, or division of a district, which is under his superintendence. This report is to be for the year ending the 31st December, or, if the officer at that date has not been in office for a whole year, then for so much of the year as has elapsed since his appointment. The report is to be made to the council by whom he is appointed, and the medical officer of health himself should send a copy of it to the Local Government Board and to the county council or county councils of the county or counties within which his district may be situated. It should be made as soon as practicable after the expiration of the year to which it relates. The medical officer of health ought not to have any difficulty in doing this within two months ; but if from any special circumstances the report cannot be completed within this period, it should be understood that the delay must not be indefinite, and that the report should be in the hands of his council, and of the Board, within, at most, three months from the end of the year. Any special circumstances preventing the delivery of the Board's copy within three months from the end of the year should at once be reported to the Board. The Board's copy of the report should be forwarded to them when the original is sent to the council, unless the report is about to be printed by order of the council. In such cases the Board need only be supplied with three printed copies. It is very desirable that the annual report should be printed, for the sake of facility of reference, and in order that a supply of copies may be available for distribution among the town or district councillors and other persons interested.

Article 18 (section 14) of the Board's Order of March, 1891, specifies the information to be contained in the annual report. A copy of the Article is annexed.

The report should be chiefly concerned with the conditions affecting health in the district and with the means for improving those conditions. It should contain an account, brought up to the end of the year under review, of the sanitary circumstances of the district, and of any improvement or deterioration in these circumstances which may have occurred during the year. Care should be taken to report fully and explicitly on the influences affecting or threatening to affect injuriously the public health in the district, and on the action which has been taken, or which may still be needed, with a view to combat those influences. It is of especial importance that the medical officer of health should record what action has been taken to remedy unhealthy conditions which have been reported by him in previous annual reports, or in special reports presented during the year under review, and that attention should be called afresh, year by year, to such as remain unremedied.

The following deserve to be especially borne in mind as subjects concerning which the Board desire to obtain, through annual reports of the medical officer of health, not only definite general information, but record also of particular changes of condition that may have occurred incidentally or by action of the local authority :—

Physical features and general character of the district and general conditions of its population.

The chief occupations of the inhabitants, and the influence of any particular occupation on public health.

House accommodation, especially for the working classes : its adequacy and fitness for habitation. Sufficiency of open space about houses, and cleanliness of surroundings. Supervision over erection of new houses. Action under Parts I., II. and III. respectively of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, taken or needed.

Water supply of the district or of its several parts : its source (from public service or otherwise), nature (river water, well water, upland water, etc., sufficiency, wholesomeness, and freedom (by special treatment or otherwise) from risks of pollution. In the case of waters liable to have plumbo-solvent action, any facts, either clinical or chemical, whether negative or positive, as to contamination of the water by lead should be stated, and whether administrative action has been taken during the year in respect of such contamination.

Milk supply: character and wholesomeness of milk produced within the district or imported ; condition of dairies, cowsheds, and milkshops ; administration in regard to milk. Tuberculous milk.

Other foods : unsound food and food inspection ; sanitary condition of premises where foods are prepared, stored, or exposed for sale. Meat inspection, disease in meat, and condition of slaughter-houses. Action under Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, taken or needed. Action under section 117 of the Public Health Act, 1875. Number of carcasses and parts of carcasses condemned for tuberculosis. Information on this point should be given even when entirely negative.

Sewerage and drainage : its sufficiency in all parts of the district. Condition of sewers and house drains. Method or methods of disposal of sewage. Localities where improvements are needed.

Pollution of rivers and streams in the district : the sources and nature of such pollution, and any action taken to check it.

Excrement disposal : system in vogue ; defects, if any.

Removal and disposal of house refuse—whether by public scavenger or occupiers : frequency and method.

Nuisances : proceedings for their abatement—any remaining unabated.

Byelaws as to houses let in lodgings, offensive trades, etc. Details as to number of premises coming under each set of bye-laws, and action taken. Any need of amendment or further bye-laws.

Schools, especially public elementary schools ; sanitary condition of, including water supply ; action taken in relation to the health of the scholars and for preventing the spread of infectious disease. Arrangements for medical inspection of school children.

Methods of dealing with infectious diseases ; notification ; isolation hospital accommodation, its sufficiency and efficiency ; disinfection.

Methods of control of tuberculosis ; whether any system of notification of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, compulsory or voluntary, is in operation. Number of cases notified ; what action is taken in respect of known cases and of deaths. Amount of hospital accommodation for cases of pulmonary tuberculosis in infirmaries and elsewhere, for advanced and for earlier cases of the disease.

With regard to the preceding points it should be remembered that these reports are for the information of the Board and of the County Council as well as of the Council of the District, and that a statement of the local circumstances and a history of local sanitary questions which

may seem superfluous for the latter may often be needed by the former bodies.

It is expected that each of the preceding points will be mentioned in the annual report, and the extent of action or the absence of action on each of them definitely stated.

The report should deal with the extent, distribution, and causes of disease, especially of epidemic and notifiable diseases and of tuberculosis, within the district ; and should give an account of any noteworthy outbreaks of disease which may have engaged the attention of the medical officer of health, during the year under review, stating the result of his investigations into their origin and propagation, and the steps taken by him, or on his advice, with a view to check their spread. Attention should be called to cases in which disease is attributed to the consumption of particular articles of food, including shell-fish.

In dealing with the incidence of disease, use should be made of the tabular statements supplied by the Board, concerning which further guidance is given on page 7.

This section of the report should treat of each disease in turn ; and it will be convenient in the same connection to describe the administrative action taken. Thus the administration of the Midwives Act may with advantage be considered in relation to puerperal fever, and of the Notification of Births Act, 1907, in relation to infant mortality.

If the last-named Act has been adopted, the medical officer of health should report fully in his annual report on the measures taken by assistance of the Act in repression of infant mortality, and on the observed effect of such measures. It should be stated whether health visitors are employed ; and, if so, the work done by them in the course of the year should be set out.

Table V. issued by the Board affords opportunity for record in detail of facts as to infant mortality. It is well known that in many parts of this country this infantile death-rate remains unduly high ; that it differs widely in districts the circumstances of which are not definitely dissimilar ; and that within the limits of a given sanitary area this death-rate may exhibit striking diversities. Not a few medical officers of health, in their annual reports—more particularly in reports for recent years—have dealt in detail with this subject, thus making important contributions to better understanding of conditions which conduce to infant mortality. Nevertheless, statistics available in this connection do not afford, except in a broad and general way, satisfactory bases for comparison of district with district, nor indeed always for useful contrast of different sections of the same district.

Table V. permits record in regard of each sanitary district as a whole (as also in respect to each of particular sub-divisions of his district which the medical officer of health may select for comparison) of certain facts as to infant mortality in each of the several weeks of the first months of life and in subsequent months ; facts which when accumulated for a series of years should prove of definite value in instituting comparisons such as have been referred to. In the text of his annual report, the medical officer of health will, no doubt, comment on the facts that he has recorded in his table or tables, offering, at the same time, observations on the conditions which, in his view, have mainly contributed to any special infants' mortalities witnessed, and giving account of any measures adopted to ameliorate those conditions regarded by him as especially hostile to infant life. In so far as modification of procedure for the purpose, or of law in facilitating such modification, is in his opinion necessary, the medical officer of health is invited to state his views.

It is not proposed that report on the above lines be limited to districts exhibiting unduly high infantile death-rates. Data are desirable respecting districts low in the scale of infant mortality, with comment by the medical officer of health on the facts that he is recording, and indication of the conditions which, in his view, have principally conduced in his district to comparatively insignificant infantile death-rate.

In reference to Schools the Memorandum on Medical Inspection of Children in Elementary Schools (Circular 576) issued by the Board of Education in November, 1907, dealing with the new duties thrown upon Local Education Authorities in this respect by Section 13 of the Education Administrative Provisions Act, 1907, and also Circulars 582 and 596 issued by the Board of Education in February and August, 1908, should be carefully studied. The above Act does not confer powers in supercession of those heretofore exercised generally in a public health sense by Sanitary Authorities under previous enactments ; rather it is supplementary to existing Public Health Law in that it requires supervision of the health of the individual child. Where the medical officer of health is also school medical officer under the Code of Regulations for Public Elementary Schools, 1908, it may be convenient that the annual report which he is required to make in the latter capacity should be issued together with his annual report on the health of his district. In any case, where the medical officer of health is or is not himself the school medical officer, he should state in his annual report what arrangements are in force for the discharge of the duties of the latter office, and for the medical inspection of children in public elementary schools in the district.

Section 132 of the factory and workshop Act, 1901, which came into force on January 1st, 1902, requires that—

“The Medical Officer of Health of every District Council shall, in his annual report to them, report specifically on the administration of this Act in workshops and workplaces, and he shall send a copy of his annual report or so much of it as deals with this subject, to the Secretary of State.”

The copy should be addressed to the Secretary of State, Home Office, Whitehall, and the foregoing remarks with respect to the transmission of the report to the Local Government Board apply also to its transmission to the Home Office.

The medical officer of health is required to report on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, only in so far as this administration is in the hands of the District Council and is concerned with matters in his department. In reporting on the sanitary administration of workshops and workplaces he should include an account of the action with respect to factories, workshops, and workplaces taken under the Public Health Acts as well as under the Factory and Workshop Act.

In reporting on the sanitary condition of workshops and workplaces the medical officer of health should state what action has been taken to remedy any defective conditions met with under each heading. He should state whether section 22 of the Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890 is in force in the district, and what standard of ‘sufficiency and suitability’ of sanitary accommodation is adopted locally.

The report should state as regards all existing underground bakehouses whether they comply with the requirements of the District Council in all respects ; and the sanitary condition of all bakehouses should form the subject of exact comment.

The medical officer of health, in reporting his proceedings and advice should put on record whether he has made systematic inspections of his district. By “systematic inspections” are meant inspections independent of such enquiries as the medical officer of health may have to make into particular outbreaks of disease, or into unwholesome conditions to which

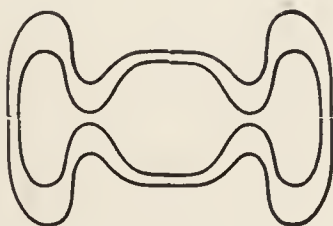
his attention has been specially called by complaints or otherwise ; and such inspections will include the house-to-house inspections which may be necessary in particular localities.

In making systematic inspections, as in much of his other action, the medical officer of health will usually have required the assistance of the inspector of nuisances ; and the medical officer should include in his report an account of the action which the inspector may have taken for the removal of nuisances injurious to health.

What has been said above with regard to the information which an annual report should contain must be understood, not as suggesting that the report should be limited to these subjects, but as indicating the sort of information required by the Board's Order. Many medical officers of health will doubtless, with great advantage to the administration of their districts, furnish much more detailed information and statistics respecting particular questions to which they have been led by the circumstances of the year to devote attention, or in the investigation of which they may have arrived at definite conclusions. Any information of this kind will be appreciated by the Local Government Board.

Local Government Board,
November, 1910.

ARTHUR NEWSHOLME,
Medical Officer.



SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Area of the Borough in Statute Acres	...	...	...	1616 $\frac{5}{8}$
Population, Census 1901	...	...	...	19843
„ Estimated, middle of June, 1910	...	...	...	23000
Number of inhabited houses, Census 1901	...	...	...	3881
„ „ „ 1910	...	...	...	4884
Average number of persons per house, 1901	...	...	...	5·1
Density of Population, persons per acre...	...	...	...	17

	Borough, 1910.	England and Wales, 1910.	76 Large Towns.	142 Smaller Towns.	England and Wales less the 218 Towns.
Birth Rate ...	18·7				
Death Rate, corrected ...	12·3				
Zymotic Death Rate ...	·6				
Infantile Mortality ...	55·3				

THE BOROUGH.

The Borough is formed from the union of the two ancient and separate boroughs of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis separated by the harbour and its prolongation—West and North—the Backwater.

Melcombe Regis lies to the East of the Backwater and North of the Harbour, it is the more level of the two, the maximum height above sea level being 108 feet. It is divided into two Wards, North and South. The Geological formation of the greater portion of Melcombe Regis is Oxford clay, but that portion facing the Bay has an overlying strata of shingle and sand to a depth of 8 or 10 feet.

Weymouth lying to the West and South of the harbour and Backwater is the more hilly portion, the gradients being steeper, the maximum height being 175 feet. The Geological formation is Clay and Coral Rag.

The Area of the Borough was considerably enlarged in 1895 by including a portion of the Radipole Parish in Melcombe Regis and of Wyke Regis in Weymouth.

The Area as given me by the Borough Engineer is—

				ACRES.
Old Borough	{	Land ...	...	452 $\frac{1}{4}$
		Tidal Waters	...	311
				———— 763 $\frac{1}{4}$
Extension ...	{	Radipole ...	...	437
		Wyke Regis	...	416 $\frac{3}{8}$
				———— 853 $\frac{3}{8}$
Total ...				———— 1616 $\frac{5}{8}$

POPULATION.

As in all years, except the census year, this has to be estimated, and in consequence of the extension of the Borough in 1895 the usual method of estimation by calculating the rate of increase as being the same in each decennial period is not available.

It is somewhat difficult to arrive at a correct estimate, and I have taken all the various methods and struck an average, correcting this by means of the number of inhabited houses and the average number of persons to each house as at the census in 1901.

The estimation has to be made for the normal resident population as at the end of June, and does not take into account visitors, of which the town is never entirely free, between the annual summer immigrants and the visits of the Fleet.

The average number of inhabited houses as given me by the Rate Collector is a considerable increase upon former years, and estimating the population by this means it gives roughly 25,000, but I consider this an over-estimation, and for statistical purposes will retain the population as last year, viz. : 23,000. The increase, however, in actual number of inhabited houses is so much greater in Melcombe Regis that it is advisable to consider the population of each portion of the Borough as equal.

The Census will be taken in April this year and all statistics based on the population will be subject to revisal when the actual figures are available.

METEOROLOGY.

Full details of the Meteorology of the Borough will be found in the appended Report of the Honorary Meteorologist, Mr. I. J. Brown, F.R.Met.Soc., but the following summary of his Report may be of interest :—

Highest Maximum Temperature	...	76·9°	Aug. 10th.
Lowest Minimum	„	20·3°	Jan. 27th.
Mean Maximum	„	56·8°	
Mean Minimum	„	45·8°	
Mean of Maximum and Minimum	...	51·3°	
Difference from Average...	...	+0·6°	
Number of days on which rain fell	...	184	
Total fall in inches	... ..	30·65	
Mean Relative Humidity...	...	80%	
Number of hours of bright sunshine	...	1693·7	
Days on which sun shone	...	307	

CLIMATE.

The Naples of England, as it aptly has been termed, possesses one of the most equable climates in the Country.

Its rare geographical position, situated at the extremity of a promontory, sheltered from the North by the Dorset Hills, with the Crescent Bay facing the East, and with the pure, fresh and invigorating breezes of the English Channel fanning it from the West, with its wealth of bright sunshine, its small rainfall, its soft yet mildly invigorating atmosphere free from any oppressive humidity, Weymouth equals, if it does not excel, any other health resort in the Country.

Although in easterly winds the Esplanade is somewhat exposed, yet one has only to travel to another portion of the Borough where the outlook is to the South and West and the English Channel, and this drawback vanishes.

Boating and Bathing are of the safest and best. Public Gardens are dotted here and there, whilst the many places of historical interest, and the diversified scenery of land and seascape—some of these unique—are easily accessible by numerous steamers and coaches.

The prevailing westerly winds and the sheltered position of the Town give to the Winter a mildness and salubrity which it is to be regretted are not more widely known.

OCCUPATION OF INHABITANTS.

To a considerable extent Weymouth may be considered, like other Health Resorts, a residential place.

Very few of the inhabitants are solely dependent upon the letting of houses in the summer, though a considerable number find this occupation a very desirable, and frequently essential, addition to their incomes. The working or artizan class are chiefly engaged as skilled mechanics at Whitehead's Torpedo Works, or in the various building trades, with a small number in engineering and shipbuilding. The Harbour with its shipping, boating, and fishing also finds employment for a small number. It cannot be said that any particular occupation has an influence on the Public Health.

HOUSING ACCOMMODATION.

Rodwell district and Melcombe Regis North district may be considered to all intents, and with but few exceptions, residential, and the houses of modern type or recently modernized.

The centre of the town—Melcombe Regis South and that portion of Weymouth abutting on the harbour—are old. The streets are narrow, yard spaces diminutive, and the area generally congested. It is in these portions of the Borough that we have many of the older courts and alleys and some back-to-back houses, but as these portions have been receiving particular attention from the Sanitary Authority during the last seven years, they now to a large extent compare favourably as regards cleanliness of surroundings, paved yards and streets, and sanitary conditions, with other more open and modern streets. Only a proper housing plan, with demolition and removal of many streets, and re-building, can ever bring many of these portions into an approach to the garden city of the future.

The Westham portion of the Borough is of much more modern construction and contains many rows of houses erected for and occupied by the working classes.

The population density in 1910 for the whole Borough is 14·2 per acre. Excluding the area covered by water it is 17·6 per acre. I have been unable to get sufficient accurate information as to the area of the different wards actually built over, to give the density of the population of these separately, but the following table shows the number of inhabited houses in each ward at the Census of 1901, and as stated to me by the Rate Collectors for 1910, and the number of persons per house as at 1901 Census

Wards	Houses inhabited Census 1901	Houses inhabited 1910 (stated)	Population Census 1901	Population estimated 1910	Persons per house Ce'us 1901
Melcombe Regis North	1045	1399	5187	6939	4·96
Melcombe Regis South	903	1108	4625	5673	5·12
Weymouth	... 1211	1555	6387	8192	5·27 +
Wyke Regis	... 722	822	3644	4144	5·04 +
	3881	4884	19843	24948	

Under the Building Bye-Laws no certificate as to a house being fit or ready for occupation is required, and the exact number built and occupied in a year can only be ascertained from our Record of testing and inspecting the sanitary system. The number finished and occupied during 1910 is 22. Of this number only 7 can even remotely be classed as intended for the working classes, and the rentals of these are stated to be over 7/- per week inclusive of rates.

The subject of the Housing of the Working Classes has this year been brought prominently forward, in consequence of a letter from the Local Government Board calling the attention of the Council to the paragraphs in former Reports, mentioning the lack of suitable accommodation for working men and their families earning less than 30/- per week, and asking the Council what steps they were taking to remedy this need, and suggesting action under Part III. of the Housing Acts. The Council remitted this letter to the Streets and Works Committee, who desired me to make a Special Report on the subject, which I here give *in extenso*.

*To the Street and Works Committee of the Borough of
Weymouth and Melcombe Regis.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you a special Report as requested upon the letter of the L.G.B. as dealing with the lack of suitable accommodation for the Working Classes.

This matter is not one that my opinion upon is the sole one. It has been mentioned by the Ministers of Religion at various times, and a joint meeting of Members of the Board of Guardians, and of this Council, was held at the Guildhall, some three years ago, to enquire into the subject and its influences on the moral welfare of the people.

In his Report for 1902, my predecessor, Dr. Jones, dealing with his first period of five months only, writes—"There are undoubtedly many cases of habitual overcrowding, but this is

largely an economic question, there are few houses in the town where rent is below 5/6 per week, and the people who take them often sub-let some of their rooms in order to make up the rent, which naturally leads to overcrowding."

In his Report for 1903, he dealt with the conditions generally of the houses for the Working Classes, and evidenced particular Streets and Courts. It cannot be considered that the Report is a pleasing one for a Sanitary Authority to peruse.

In the 1904 Report he deals with the conditions previously reported upon, and in one paragraph states—"There are in this Town very few self contained tenement dwellings where a separate family life is possible for those who live in them. Such tenement houses as exist are ordinary dwelling houses originally intended for single families, containing six or seven rooms, let by the owners or sub-let by the tenants in sets to a number of families." Details follow as to a census of certain localities taken in December of that year—a most favourable time—and these are instructing.

In the 1905 Report overcrowding of tenement dwellings is mentioned, and in 1906 lack of suitable accommodation and overcrowding is commented upon, also the need of providing suitable tenement dwellings, and Glasgow Municipality is instanced. In 1907 Report overcrowding in the houses of the artizan class, from the fact of high rentals compelling two or more families to share one house, is mentioned. In the 1908 and 1909 Reports the whole subject is again entered into, and it is upon these Reports that the L.G.B. are asking what is being done to remedy the obvious need.

During each of the years I have been in office I have brought before my Committee, and urged also in my Annual Report, the crying need for regulating by bye-laws these houses let in lodgings or occupied by members of more than one family. This would tend to restrict overcrowding, but is not the best remedy, that being the erection of suitable houses of three or four rooms which could be let at a moderate rental, and it is only the flat system which could be carried out in this district.

At the census of 1901 the total number of inhabited houses is officially given as :—

Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	3881
Uninhabited, in occupation	...	...	...	143
Do., not in occupation	...	...	...	200
				<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	4224

Tenements (a tenement being distinguished as being a house occupied by more than one family, and some tenements may and do have many families) at the same date are given as 4384, that is a greater number than the total number of dwelling-houses in the town. Of this number 916 were possessed of less than five rooms. When you take into account that at the present day the number of houses rated at £10 and under is 1053 it gives you some idea of the congestion that must exist and that separate family life for the working man in a self-contained house is a rare luxury.

At the present time the number of inhabited houses is stated to be 4884 in actual occupation. This, at the Census average per house of 5·1 gives an estimated population of roughly 25000, an increase since 1901 of 5000 people. To house this increase, keeping to the same average, 1000 houses should have been built, but according to the returns the total number of houses inhabited is only 800 more and this is excluding all unoccupied, and leaving out of account those which have been closed as unfit for human habitation voluntarily or compulsorily.

During the period (5 years) that I have been your M.O.H. I am not aware of one single new house being erected, of the type suitable for the ordinary artizan, to give him a separate family life.

It is not within the sphere of my ordinary duties to enter into the causes of the high rentals prevalent in the District, but it is within my sphere to point out the duty of the Local Authority to take means—such as may lie within their power—to ameliorate these conditions.

The Housing Acts, 1890 to 1903 gave powers to Local Authorities to provide suitable houses for Artizans, but the procedure was cumbersome, and the Acts were practically a dead letter, as compulsory powers were absent.

The Housing Act, 1909, removes nearly all the disabilities of the former Acts, and in the words of the President of the L.G.B. "The object of the Bill is to provide a domestic condition for the people in which their physical health, their morals, their character and their whole social condition can be improved. On its Housing side the Bill seeks to abolish, reconstruct and prevent the slum. It hopes to render model dwellings similar to those that are so prevalent in Germany less frequent in the future than now. It seeks to improve the health of the people by raising the character of the house and the home, and by extended inspection, supervision, direction and guidance of central control to help Local Authorities to do more than they do now."

I have approached personally builders erecting what is here termed houses for the Working Classes, and pointed out to them the desirability of building a different type to let at a less rental, but in vain. Private enterprise having failed to do so, only the Local Authority is left. In my report for 1908 occurs "It is a matter of serious consideration whether the Municipality, being themselves holders of land and buildings, should move in this direction or as formerly leave it to private enterprise."

Under Sect. 4 of the Housing Acts, the Public Health Loan Commissioners are, subject to the approval and regulations of the L.G.B. allowed to make grants to certain building Societies.

Loans to a Local Authority for the purposes of the Act, are to be made at the minimum rate, and the loan may be for a period not exceeding 80 years.

The maximum wage of the skilled artizan, excluding some few in specialized engineering, does not exceed 30/- per week, but the great majority of the working classes who are not skilled artizans, earn from 18/- to 22/- per week. The Corporation employees may be taken as the best paid type with constant work, and the above is representative.

Excluding the Courts, and back to back houses—none of which can be considered as of a satisfactory type—few houses exist at less than 6/- per week rent, including rates, and to a married man with a family, earning 20/- or so per week, this rent is prohibitive, and they are forced either to sub-let, or be sub-tenants. Such houses as are let at 5/- per week are eagerly sought after, and the few that exist are bespoken long ahead of any vacancy.

I have not yet heard of the existence of key money with regard to these houses, but if the present congestion continues, this added evil may possibly come into existence.

In June last, I reported to the Sanitary Committee an insanitary area, as existing at South Parade, and have since been waiting a joint inspection by that Committee and yours of this site, with a view to demolition, under the Housing Acts. Some portion of this site is the property of the Corporation, and it might be possible to make an experiment, with the type of house as recommended, on this spot. West Plain has been demolished, and this site could also be considered for the erection of a proper tenement house.

Yours faithfully,

W. B. BARCLAY, *M.O.H.*

Since the above Report was written, plans for six small tenements have been deposited, and received the sanction of the Council. These tenements, as an experiment, are being erected in accordance to my expressed desires, and within the last few days, I have learned of the possibility, if suitable land can be procured, of the erection of a large number of such. From reports received from numerous sources, I have no doubt that such houses will be eagerly sought after, and the owners be able to pick and choose their tenants.

Cases of overcrowding are brought to our notice. These have been abated on informal notice, but it is found that in all cases it is simply a transference to some other house, and another

family, and the cycle proceeds indefinitely. Without Bye-laws dealing with houses let to more than one family, it is practically impossible to deal with such cases, under the Public Health Act, 1875.

With Bye-laws, some regulation as to numbers occupying one house, or rooms in a house is possible, but the root of the evil is not reached. Such Bye-laws however, if sanctioned, would require an increase in the staff of the Department, if they are to be carried out impartially. It is useless to pass them if the means of inspection and supervision are denied us.

When the Fleet are in the harbour, and large numbers of liberty men sleep on shore, the evil of overcrowding is much accentuated. Though Homes are provided, and a large number of houses outside are on the Register of the Homes, the number of beds available are, only too frequently, greatly insufficient for the numbers, with a consequence that overcrowding of a type demoralizing to all concerned, recurs night after night.

There can be no question of the urgent necessity of Bye-laws requiring the registration of all such houses, and the limiting of the numbers occupying one room, and the separation of the sexes.

An important factor in connection with the density of the population, and having a great influence on the health of the community, and of inestimable advantage thereto, is the fact of the Borough being practically surrounded and intersected by the sea and tidal waters. The action of the Corporation also in, at every available opportunity, acquiring open spaces for Public Gardens and Parks, and thus adding to the lungs and breathing spaces of the town, cannot be too highly commended.

HOUSING ACTS, 1890 TO 1909.

Some parts of the Borough being old and consisting of Streets, Courts and Alleys erected early in the Nineteenth Century, much attention has to be given to action under the above, more so than would be necessary in towns of a similar size not dating back to such early years.

The accompanying list gives an account of action taken. The number of houses where notices have been served and defects not remedied seems to be large, but this is accounted for by the fact that the Regulations, issued under the Housing Act, 1909, were not published until September, consequently most of the work has only come into hand during the latter months of the year.

A Representation, under Sect. 4 of the principal Act as amended by Sect. 22 of the 1909 Act, has been made as regards South Parade being an insanitary area. The Horsford Street area has not further moved since my last report. The houses though closed not yet being demolished, through the absence in the colonies of one of the owners.

West Plain area has been demolished.

HOUSING TOWN PLANNING ACT, 1909.

Name of Street.	No. of Notices served.	No. of Houses remedied.	No. of Houses not remedied.	Sect. 15	Sect. 17
1, 2, 3, Alexandra Road	3	—	3	3	—
31, 33, 35, 37 Chickerell Rd.	1	—	4	4	—
39, 41, 43, 45 „ „	1	—	4	4	—
47, 42, 51, 53 „ „	1	—	4	4	—
15 High Street ...	1	—	1	—	1*
50 High Street ...	1	—	1	—	1*
48 High Street ...	1	—	1	—	1*
1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Ilton Terrace ...	1	5	—	5	—
6, 7, 8 Ilton Terrace ...	1	3	—	3	—
17 Lennox Street ...	1	—	1	—	1
1 Royal Yard ...	1	—	1	—	1*
3 Royal Yard ...	1	—	1	—	1*
4 Royal Yard ...	1	—	1	—	1*
1, 2, 3, 4, 7 South Parade Court	}			Insanitary Area. Part I. Sect. 4, Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890	
Flora Cottage, „ „					
Elma Cottage, „ „					
And dilapidated and unoccupied houses ...					
66 St. Thomas Street ...	1	—	1	—	1*
16 Walpole Street ...	1	—	1	—	1*
Totals	17	8	24	23	9

* Closing Orders in operation.

HOUSE SANITATION.

“The health of a town is life and death to its prosperity,” and an essential to health consists in having the Sanitary details of each house brought into conformity with modern standards, and thereafter kept at that. Drainage begotten diseases, though steadily decreasing are still much too common. The education of the public in the matter of Domestic Sanitation proceeds rapidly, and during the past year, there was an almost feverish activity on behalf of the public to have their house drains and all sanitary arrangements brought up to the high standard that is now exacted in the Borough. In no previous year has there been such a record of work accomplished, and it is gratifying to us to find that the majority of work carried out was at the request of owners and tenants, and not forced upon them by the Health Department.

It may also be stated that practical unanimity exists between this Department and Architects and Builders, and that friction is and has been absent.

One attempt was made by certain retrogressives, through gross misrepresentation of facts, to bring back the easy going and futile methods of drain testing, etc., of the past, but met with no encouragement from the Sanitary Committee.

At the present rate of progress we are within measurable reach of having the town in the position of being *sans peur sans reproche*, as regards house drainage.

In all cases of redraining of houses we recommend—on account of the soil—iron pipes, and consider that there is great economy in their use, and during the past year, iron pipes have been the rule, rather than the exception as previously. The inspection and testing of drains, apart from public sewers, is vested in the Health Department.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Borough is supplied throughout by a private Company, which also supplies various villages in the adjacent Rural District. The water springs from the upper green sand, below the chalk at the foot of a hill beyond the village of Sutton Poyntz, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the town.

A large number of springs issue from the side of the hill and run directly into a small reservoir or collecting pond, partly concrete and partly soil. It is not stored here but flows at once through a strainer to the pumping station.

The whole source is surrounded for about four acres by an unclimbable iron fence, and is uninhabited for a considerable distance round. The height of the collecting reservoir and springs is about 80 feet above sea level. The water flows by gravitation to the pumping station 40 feet below, where partly by turbine engines and partly by steam it is pumped to the covered reservoirs at Preston 160 feet higher, and at Wyke 185 feet higher. From the Preston reservoir it flows by gravitation to a covered reservoir at Rodwell at 142 feet, and these—Preston and Rodwell—supply the town of Weymouth, the Wyke reservoir serving the higher parts of the town. The supply is on the constant system, and the quantity is sufficient, the present consumption averaging $25\frac{1}{2}$ gallons per head per day. It is of excellent quality, though rather hard. The accompanying analysis has been given me by the Company as having been made by their Analyst:—

(COPY).

Western Counties Laboratory,
Southey House, College Green,
Bristol,

February 5th, 1909.

To the

Board of Directors of the Weymouth Waterworks Company.

Gentlemen,

Herewith I beg to submit the results of analysis of a sample of the Weymouth Water received from your Engineer on the 30th ult. as follows:

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.

				<i>Grains per gallon.</i>
Saline Ammonia	...	...	...	none
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	·0010
Nitrogen as Nitrate	...	...	...	·28
Nitrites	...	...	...	absent
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80° F.			...	none
Chlorine as Chloride	...	...	...	1·90
Total dissolved solids	...	...	...	21·0
Earthy Carbonates	...	...	...	12·5
Earthy Salts other than Carbonates	...	...	...	1·0
Hardness	...	...	...	14·5
Poisonous Metals	...	...	...	absent
Sediment	...	a little mineral and vegetable debris		

BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS.

Total Organisms on Gelatine plate	...	52 per C.C.
„ „ liquefying	...	5 C.C.
Bacillus Coli	... none in 50	C.C.
Streptococci	... none in 10	C.C.
B. Enteritidis Sporogenes	none in 250	C.C.

These results are in every way most satisfactory.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) F. WALLIS STODDART.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS ORDER 1885-6.

The Regulations and Bye-laws formed under these, have, as in former years, been a matter of constant attention, believing as we do that a milk supply pure and uncontaminated, at its source, and in its distribution and storage, is one of the greatest means towards the reduction of disease.

The severe measures of former years have not been necessary, as the standard then set has been, with perhaps one or at most

two exceptions, faithfully observed. There is an increasing inclination with the Cowkeepers to seek our assistance and advice, instead of as formerly, having it thrust upon them.

It is only by constant watchfulness and supervision that this standard is kept up. It has not been necessary to report anyone to the Committee for prosecution.

The larger Dairymen—as apart from Cowkeepers—are all that can be desired, and render us every assistance.

As in former years, the trouble is always with the small purveyor of milk, whose milk sales are only a small adjunct to other business. We find it difficult to impress them with the need for care and cleanliness, and a prosecution is necessary to bring some of them to a better knowledge. This has been delayed year by year under the hope that promised legislation would give us powers that would close these places permanently.

There is still a general lack in the matter of *scalding* utensils, and with nearly all the Cowkeepers, in the rapid cooling of the milk.

One of the greatest drawbacks to our efforts is the fact that some two-thirds of the whole milk supply of the Borough is brought in by cowkeepers resident outside the Borough (many of them being their own purveyors), and over whom we can exercise no control, excepting during the period they are actually within the district.

The difference in the standard exacted within the Borough and without is a source of complaint.

Number of Dairies on Register	...	...	27
Number of Cowsheds on Register	...	...	7
Number of Cows in the Borough	...	...	102
Number of Purveyors { within the Borough	...41	} 61	
on Register ... { from without the Borough	20		
Notices issued to abate Nuisance, etc.	...	...	5
Number Registered in 1910	...	...	0
Number removed from Register in 1910	...	...	2
Number of Ice Cream Vendors on Register in 1910	...	...	4

Ice Cream Makers are treated as Dairies, and undergo the same inspection. During the busy summer months, the inspections are frequent. The Stalls and Utensils used by the open air retailers, are kept under daily supervision. One maker is a perennial source of trouble as regards cleanliness; he is an alien.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There are six Slaughter Houses on the Register and these are carried on in a satisfactory manner.

There is a tendency in one or two cases to allow persons who have not applied for a licence, to occupy and slaughter, and in one case where a seizure was made to repudiate liability for the use made by the outsider. As this case is *sub judice* I cannot enter further into it.

There are eight places used in the preparation of food, such as sausages, all are kept in a cleanly state and free from any emanations which might contaminate food.

Within the Borough all Slaughter Houses are licensed for one year. Surprise visits are paid as frequently as possible during the hours of slaughtering, for the purpose of inspecting meat for disease, but it is manifestly impossible for inspection to be systematic.

The chances of unsound food being smuggled from them into the district are great, it is within our knowledge that it has been done, and though some few cases have been detected, in others the information has reached us too late, the diseased animal being rushed to slaughter, cut up and removed within a few hours.

During this year mutual action between the neighbouring authorities has been arranged, and the chances of the "slink" butcher escaping are reduced.

There is only one way to regulate the meat traffic, and that is for the Local Authority to erect a Public Abattoir, and to in-

sist that all animals to be slaughtered for sale, and all carcasses of animals slaughtered elsewhere and intended to be sold as food for man, should be brought to the public slaughterhouse for inspection, in a place set apart for the purpose.

The subject of a Public Abbatoir has been persistently brought forward, year by year, but has always been shelved. It cannot be allowed to much longer lie in abeyance, as the powers above are moving in the matter of meat inspection.

It is unfair to the honest butcher who slaughters nothing but the best of meat that he has to compete with the dishonest man who purchases manifestly inferior and diseased animals.

I have had the opportunity of visiting several of the Continental public slaughterhouses, and for administrative purposes, simplification of inspection, cleansing, etc., they are far ahead of our present method in this Borough.

Even in the matter of seizure of tuberculous carcasses the loss to the owner is not total, as means are taken of sterilizing the meat and issuing it at a reduced price to the poor inhabitants of the district.



FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

The administration of this Act is in the Police Department and is dealt with by them, under the Watch Committee.

The undernoted return is through the courtesy of the Chief Constable.

Chief Constable's Office, Weymouth Police,
January 5th, 1911.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Name.</i>	<i>Result.</i>	<i>Proceedings.</i>
10	Milk ...	{ 9 genuine 1 adulterated	Vendor fined 5/- and costs
18	Butter ...	Genuine	
2	Cheese ...	„	
2	Lard ...	„	
2	Margarine	„	
4	Rice ...	„	
1	Sago ...	„	
1	Tapioca ...	„	
2	Mustard	{ 1 genuine 1 adulterated	1 sample mustard found to contain farinaceous matter, 8 %. No proceedings taken
1	Pepper ...	Genuine	

FRANK EACOCK, *Chief Constable,*
Inspector under Food and Drugs Act.

Inspection of Perishable Foods is carried out as far as possible by the Health Department but is not systematic. During the summer months, considerable attention is paid to fruit, but little is done, with the staff at our command, to inspect all meat slaughtered or brought into the Borough. As stated under Slaughter Houses, an attempt is being made by combined action, to stop what is termed the 'slink' meat business, and our action has so far been successful as to compel one well known dealer in this kind of food, to move to fresh pastures.

The following table gives the seizures and approximate quantities of unsound food.

June 24th, whole Carcase of a Cow, tuberculosis and otherwise diseased, vide note.

July 7th, 175lbs. Strawberries and 10lbs. Black Currants, owner prosecuted, fined £1 and costs.

July 8th, 5lbs. Strawberries.

„ „ „
„ „ „
„ „ „

July 11th, 8 baskets of Plums, 80lbs.

July 14th, 155lbs. Strawberries, owner summoned but disappeared.

July 14th, 5lbs. Strawberries and White Currants.

August 3rd, 9lbs. Plums.

October 11th, 22 Boxes of Fish.

December 19th, 2 Pig Plucks, tuberculosis.

„ 29th, 1 Ewe, tuberculosis and pleuro pneumonia.

„ 30th, „ „ „ „

The cases of the animals seized for tuberculosis require some explanation. In the first, on June 24th, we received information of an animal, being in a slaughter house, that seemed doubtful. Before steps could be taken it was removed during the night to the Rural District. The Sanitary Inspector, with the Rural Inspector and a Veterinary Surgeon, followed and found the animal, and with the Officer of the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, considered, on the Veterinary Surgeon's Certificate, the beast ought to be slaughtered. This was done, and by arrangement, when the carcass was brought to the Borough Boundary was seized and destroyed. The owner was prosecuted for Cruelty to Animals and fined.

On December 29th, on information received, I visited a private yard, in company with the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Inspector and the Sanitary Inspector, and found a live Ewe, obviously in an advanced state of disease. While arranging for a watch to be kept, that a legal seizure might be made, the animal was removed to a slaughterhouse in the Borough. We followed, but suspicion having been roused the animal was, before our arrival, removed to the Rural District. Immediately the Rural Authorities were notified, and the following day the sheep was brought back to the slaughterhouse, seized, and on the Veterinary Surgeon's certificate, slaughtered, and the carcass destroyed.

A second ewe was seen, amongst many other sheep, on our first visit to the slaughterhouse, belonging to the same owner, and on inspection by the Veterinary Surgeon it was ordered to

be slaughtered, the carcase was seized and destroyed. Both animals were badly emaciated, suffering from pleuro-pneumonia and advanced tuberculosis. They had been bought in the open market for 10/-, 3/-, and 7/- respectively. Their condition was so manifest that I fail to understand the market authorities at Dorchester allowing them to enter. Prosecution will follow in these cases.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are twelve places classed under the Public Health Act, 1875, as such, though others exist, which under the Amendment Act, 1907, we are asking for powers to include. Amongst these are the fried fish shops.

Bye-laws for the regulation of these have been prepared and submitted to the Local Government Board, and are awaiting their approval. It is sought that Fried Fish shops be included amongst offensive trades, also Marine Stores, so that notice may be given under Sect. 112, P. H. Act, 1875, of their intention to establish such a business or trade, and the Local Authority have the power prior to the establishment, of giving their sanction, as to site, building, and appliances.

Complaints have been made at various times as to the establishment of Fried Fish Shops, etc., in situations and buildings entirely unsuitable, and it is a hardship on the owner of such to be turned out practically after the expenditure of his capital. One statutory notice had to be served upon an offensive trade establishment in consequence of recurring nuisance; otherwise they are well conducted. The same applies to the Fried Fish shops: our only difficulty with these is the regulating of the storage of empty fish tubs, which in the summer months become an abominable nuisance in little over 24 hours.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

Two of these are on the Register, a decrease of one since last year. An attempt was made to re-establish a closed one, without the knowledge of the Local Authority, but occupation ceased on notice being given.

One is not very satisfactorily conducted, and a careful consideration will have to be given, if the carelessness continues, as to the advisability of continuing the License under the present management.

There is an undoubted lack of Common Lodging Houses in the town for males, and none exist for females, or married couples, except such as are illegitimately conducted, of some of which we are aware, but find legal proof difficult to secure.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The sewage of the Town is discharged into the sea, at a point 1,380 feet east of the Nothe Point, the extreme point of land of the Borough, and 24 feet below the low water level of ordinary Spring tides. It is pumped thither, as much as possible during ebb tide, through an outfall sewer of about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles length, from the large collecting tank at Westham. This tank is of the capacity of about 300,000 gallons, and is supplied by two intercepting sewers, one from Weymouth, one from Melcombe Regis, into which all the street sewers converge. During recent years several relief surface water drains have been constructed, which convey storm water direct into the harbour, etc. These have considerably relieved the pumping station. In times of storm, however, in spite of these relief drains, the pumping station is unable to compete with the large volume of diluted sewage entering the tank, and it is necessary to divert that portion coming down the Eastern bank of the Backwater, into the Backwater, below the weir, by means of an old sewer, and to pump from the tank direct into the Backwater, below the weir, at all states of the tide.

Apart from the general system there are two local sewers receiving the drainage of about 100 houses in the Belfield, Buxton, and Old Castle Districts, which discharge their contents untreated into Portland Roads.

A scheme is in existence for dealing with these, and conveying their contents to the general system, but as it is dependent upon the construction of Docks and Railway by the Great Western Railway Company, which have received Parliamentary sanction, the Corporation have to await their pleasure for the completion of the scheme.

Regular flushing of sewers is carried out during the summer months by means of a specially fitted cart, but this is a very inefficient method and barely worth the expense. The provision of large automatic flushing tanks at the head of each sewer would be of the utmost benefit to the public health generally. The sewers are ventilated by 66 upcast Ventilating Shafts and 13 Webb's Lights.

The Park district has been a perennial source of trouble, occupying as it does an area of about 20 acres closely built over, and forming a basin, the surface levels of many parts of which are below high water of ordinary Spring tides. In times of storm, portions of this district become flooded, the surface water entering the sewers, and becoming dammed back by the general congestion of the sewers at such times.

Some years ago the Council provided a special pumping plant for the purpose of relieving this district in such times of storm, the outlet pipe of which discharged into the backwater at the foot of King Street until recently, when, owing to railway alterations it was carried out through the new embankment, and discharges on the N. side of this, near Melcombe Regis station.

This pumping plant, though of some benefit, has failed to entirely prevent flooding, in times of excessive rainfall, and a scheme is being carried out by the Consulting Borough Engineer, with a view of cutting off entirely the storm or surface water, coming from the higher parts surrounding this district, and con-

veying it direct into the sea or backwater, and by increasing the outlet from the present pumping station.

By the same scheme it is proposed to provide for the discharge of storm waters from the sewage tanks, into the backwater, by means of an overflow main.

The relaying of the old sewer, receiving the storm overflow from the Radipole section, is included in this scheme, and a commencement has been made with this.

Defects having been found in the Alexandra Road sewer, this was relaid during the year, also a small section left undone on a former occasion, of the sewer on the South side of Wesley Street.

Two other defective sewers on the Weymouth side are scheduled for early renewal, and one in the Park District in Melcombe Regis.

EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.

This may be stated to be entirely the water carriage system, with one or two exceptions. One or two houses on the extreme borders of the Borough, where sewers or levels are not available, have earth closets.

So far as is known, all the house drains in the Borough with two exceptions, are connected with the sewers. This statement we repeat each year, and each year have to add, that some drains have been detected discharging direct into the Harbour or Backwater, and have been cut off.

The defect with the water carriage system, is the lack of flushing apparatus for so many of the w.c.'s. This is, however, being steadily and perseveringly remedied and as will be seen in the general report of sanitary work, some 214 houses have had flushing cisterns added. Wherever our attention is drawn to this matter, notice is served, and a supply is insisted upon. Recent Acts have strengthened the powers in this direction, though previously sufficient.

From a Return received we find that there are in Weymouth 1313 houses and in Melcombe Regis 1730 houses, which have 1 or more water closets fitted with a flushing cistern and water supply. The number of assessments excluding land is respectively 2507 and 2773, this leaves some 2237 closets that are hand flushed. To some extent this is due to the charge made by the Water Coy. for each flushing cistern. This is mistaken policy on their part, as much more water is used and wasted by means of hand flushing, than by means of a cistern.

POLLUTION OF RIVERS AND STREAMS.

THE BACKWATER.

The River Wey entering the Backwater at its Northern end, is to some extent polluted by receiving some portions of the sewage of the villages of Radipole, Nottingham, Broadwey and Upwey. Within the Borough the Wey is tidal and may be considered as entirely included within the backwater.

A considerable portion of the Western bank of the lake is within the Rural District, and with the exception of a few farms, the land for some distance inland is uninhabited.

Two streams running throughout their course in the Rural District join the backwater on the Western side.

Within the confines of the town a masonry dam or wier with lock gates extends across, and at ebb tide holds a certain amount of tidal waters up, keeping the flats and shallows covered with water.

The rise of tidal water over this dam at high water ordinary Spring tide, is 3 feet 5 inches. At high water ordinary neap tide it is 2 inches. The average rise of water in the Harbour at ordinary Spring tides is about 6 feet 6 inches.

At all tides there is an influx of water over the weir into the backwater.

In connection with railway improvements, as mentioned in the 1908 report, an embankment 735 feet long on the Eastern side, and 285 feet on the Western side, connected by a steel bridge, consisting of five spans of 108 feet each, has been constructed across the lake, and entirely altered its topography.

Formerly during the ebb tide, a current existed extending across the entire breadth of the lake, this no longer exists on the Eastern side. The embankment has deflected it towards the middle of the lake, and there now exists a bay of quiet shallow water, extending from the railway embankment Northward.

At neap tides the water in this portion is to all intents and purposes unchanged, and it is unfortunate that it is into this part, that the storm overflows from a great portion of Melcombe Regis discharge.

As in other seaside towns where large sheets of comparatively shallow and semi-breakish^{ae} water exist, a type of seaweed "Ulva Latissima" (locally termed "weed") flourishes luxuriously during the summer months, and, under certain conditions, becomes a serious nuisance.

During the past year members of the Royal Commission on Sewage Disposal have paid several visits of inspection, and many samples of the water and "weed" have been taken for analytical and bacteriological examination. Until their Report is issued the exact figures are not available, but I may state here that the water is, to a considerable extent, sewage contaminated, also that the Ulva is in fact a polluted water type.

In my report of last year I quoted extensively from the previous report of the Commission, and this I need not recapitulate, as the further information obtained has proved the probabilities then stated.

It has been a serious problem with the Sanitary Authority for many years, as to the proper measures to adopt to prevent the noxious effluvia which undoubtedly occurs from the decaying Ulva. Many and varied have been the methods tried, but the only one that has had any measure of success has been an expensive one, viz., the continued raking out and removal of the

weed for some five or six months of the year. This is a remedy but not a cure, and in the light of the scientific knowledge now presented to us by the highest authorities in the land, we must not wilfully shut our eyes and ignore the fact that in some measure we are ourselves the cause of the recurring nuisance.

Once and for all, as long as sewage matter—under whatever name it is attempted to gloss over the fact—is poured into this sheet of water, this weed will grow, and will prove a continued expense and a more difficult nuisance to contend with.

I have, at every opportunity given me, protested against the conveyance of the storm water overflows into this part of the lake, and even now, when it is nearly an accomplished fact, once more offer a grave warning against this most retrograde step.

Until our own hands are clean we cannot approach the neighbouring Authority to ask them to remedy their share in the pollution.

During the year a surface water drain—in Alexandra Road—discharging into the Backwater, was found to have had many house drains connected to it. This has been remedied. Below the weir the storm overflow from the Radipole sewer enters the Harbour. I have strongly urged the need of carrying this farther out into the current.

A stream, originating in the Rural District, but passing for a portion of its course within the Borough and entering the harbour, was found to receive some sewage matter on the confines of the Borough. The attention of the neighbouring Authority has been called to this and steps are being taken to have it remedied.

Every possible source of contamination of the Backwater and harbour is being investigated, and every possible step is taken by the Health Department to have such, when found, removed.

During the year approximately 350 tons of Ulva were removed at a cost of £68. There is a difficulty at times in finding a place to deposit the weed, a difficulty that should not occur if its manurial value was properly known.

Prof. Letts, when on a visit of inspection here, made the statement, with all the weight of his authority to support it, that Ulva might be compared to the rat in the animal kingdom, for the avidity with which it seizes and lives upon sewage matter, but like that animal also when it died it created an abominable nuisance ; also that it is exceedingly rich in ammonia, and as a top dressing for grass is without an equal. In some places farmers have learnt its value, and eagerly cart it away.

I have no doubt that any farmers desirous of utilizing a cheap fertilizer may have it for the carting away.



BYE-LAWS.

Bye-laws dealing with New Buildings, Slaughter Houses, Dairies and Cowsheds, Common Lodging Houses, Nuisances, and Regulations as to Persons suffering from Dangerous Infectious Disease and as to Van Dwellers, are in force within the Borough. Some of these are now to a certain extent obsolete, and require amendment or alteration to bring them into conformity with more recent legislation and methods.

Bye-laws as to offensive Trades have been sent to the Local Government Board, for their approval.

Bye-laws as to Houses Let in Lodgings, or Houses occupied by more than one family, are urgently required.

In the Annual Reports of my predecessor and myself, for the years 1902 to 1909 inclusive, complaint was made that the Building Bye-laws were not observed, and the Local Government Board recently called the attention of the Town Council to these Reports. It is therefore most pleasing to be able this year to Report that this neglect has ceased, and that unanimity of action and mutual support now mark the two departments under whose cognizance the Building Bye-laws come, and that observance is now enforced.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.

The collection of house refuse is done by the Corporation direct, and is under the Borough Surveyor's Department.

The scavenging is so arranged that every house shall be visited three times a week, and the two main business streets daily. The refuse so collected is conveyed in covered carts to Westham, where it is destroyed in one of Meldrum's Destructors. The steam generated by the destructor is used for working the engines which pump the sewage of the Borough to the outfall in the bay.

In accordance with the bye-laws every house is to be provided with a "suitable covered receptacle" for house refuse. In the past this bye-law has been more honoured in the breach than in the observance, few of the heterogenous articles used as a receptacle being either suitable or covered, with a consequent unsightly and unsavoury display, and a littered street or path daily in evidence.

In the light of recent researches, it is now beyond doubt that this condition is a very strong factor in the dissemination of disease of an infectious nature, from encouraging the presence and breeding of the ordinary house fly.

Flies breed in almost any decaying animal or vegetable matter and when the life history of the fly is known, with its enormous capability of multiplying its species; the need of reducing—more especially in the immediate neighbourhood of dwellings—its breeding and feeding places, has become one of urgent necessity.

The Local Government Board have recently issued a publication on this matter summarising the investigations carried out at their instance. "They have established beyond a doubt that flies transmit the contagion of typhoid fever, diarrhœa, cholera, diphtheria, plague, ophthalmia and several other diseases from infected matter to human beings and to their milk and food with much facility."

Much may be done by the Sanitary Authority to bring about the destruction of the house fly, by the removal of organic matter and decaying refuse, and by insisting that proper receptacles, suitably covered, be provided for such, for the short period in which household refuse is retained near a house, but the co-operation of the householder is necessary.

During the past two years, the Health Department have advised that each Sanitary bin be dusted with disinfectant powder by the scavengers when emptied, and the householder—more especially in the summer—should see that this is done, as it tends somewhat to prevent flies approaching; but the greatest essential is cleanliness, the not allowing refuse to accumulate, nor to lie about uncovered, and this lies in the hands of the householder.

After nearly 40 years of compulsory Education and of the administration of the Public Health Act of 1875, surely the people should now realize that dirt and filth are the most prolific breeders of disease, and that each household has practically the keeping of its health within its own power. Until this is realized progress will be slow and difficult.

GENERAL SANITARY WORK.

The amount of work done under this heading cannot be adequately shewn by the table appended, as generally speaking only visits paid to places are enumerated. The amount of time given by all the officers to interviews, telephone messages, etc., regarding work to be done, or being carried out, the correspondence regarding the same, and the ever readiness of the staff to render technical advice to builders and jobbers with regard to their work form no small item in each day's work. The general harmony that exist between the staff and those engaged in carrying out sanitary alterations and repairs, is mentioned elsewhere, and is a matter for congratulation.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

To the Medical Officer of Health.

I beg to submit to you my annual report dealing with the general sanitary work during the past year.

The general Order of the Local Government Board of the 13th December, 1910, Sect. XX., sub-sect. 16, gives instructions to Inspectors of Nuisances to submit to the Medical Officer of Health a tabular report as to his work during the year.

House Sanitation.

Great progress has been made in bringing the town up to a very high standard of sanitation. Some 277 houses have had attention and made up to date during the year. To do this means a great deal of trouble and work. It will be seen in the tabular report the different parts of the town where these houses have been put into order, also the details of same. In every case where the drains are repaired or relaid by instructions of the Health Department, the necessary tests are applied, viz., the smoke test under pressure, and the water test.

It has been brought to my notice on several occasions of work being carried out by builders of a job type without any notice being given to this department, with an idea to evade supervision. The fixing of a new closet pan or flushing cistern assuming that when inspection is made such work will pass. This is a fallacy, and the sooner the owner realizes that one expense is the cheapest in the end the better it will be for all concerned. No drain is allowed to be filled in without being thoroughly tested and laid on a good bed of cement concrete.

Some 56 houses have been drained with iron pipes. The use of iron in preference to stoneware for house drainage is becoming more and more popular. It is specially suitable for towns where the soils are so treacherous. Since my appointment in May, 1909, I have tested drains laid a few years previously (under the supervision of an architect), and when the test was applied the drains were found broken in several places caused by subsidence. The use of iron drains will reduce this danger to a minimum.

NAME AND POSITION OF STREETS WHERE HOUSES HAVE BEEN MADE SANITARY.	No. of Houses	No. of new buildings drained	No. of houses re-drained A Stoneware B Iron	No. of house drains repaired	No. of yards repaved	No. of yards repaired	No. of pedestal w.c. pans fixed	No. of flushing cisterns fixed	No. of disconnecting traps fixed	No. of ventilating shafts fixed	No. of fresh air inlets fixed A Mica flap B Barkers	No. of traps fixed to bath, lava- tory, and sink waste pipes	No. of inspection chambers constructed	No. of gully traps fixed	No. of bell traps removed	No. of new scullery sinks fixed	Fowls removed from dwellings	Pail closets converted into w.c.	Walls and ceilings of premises cleansed	Defective gutters and down spouts repaired	Defective floors of premises repaired	No. of complaints received	No. of choked drains cleared	Over-crowding abated	Offensive accumulations removed	Cesspool removed
Alexandra Road	8	..	7A	1A	4	5	8	8	4	4	2A4B	8	10	18	6	4	..	..	2	6	6	3	..	..	..	..
Abbotsbury Road	9	..	7A2B	..	6	2	11	10	4	2	3A3B	6	14	17	..	..	1	3	..	..	..	5	1	1	..	..
Alma Road	1	..	1A	..	1	..	2	1	1	1	1A	1	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	..	..
Avenue Road	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Alban's Street	1	..	1A	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..
Albert Street	1	..	..	1A	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..
Augusta Place	2	..	1A1B	..	2	..	4	1	2	4	2B	5	4	6	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..
Buxton Road	7	1B	3A2B	1A	..	5	5	4	3	2	3B	14	20	38	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	5	1	..	..	..
Belvidere Terrace	3	..	1A2B	..	3	..	6	2	2	2	3B	9	6	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..
Brunswick Terrace	1	..	1B	..	..	..	2	2	1	2	1B	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
Bank Buildings	1	..	1B	..	1	..	3	3	1	2	1B	2	1	3	2	1	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
Brownlow Street	1	..	1A	..	..	1	2	1	1	1	1A	1	1	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
Bond Street	1	..	1A	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2B	4	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Bath Street	1	..	1A	..	1	..	1	1	1	1	1B	1	2	1	1	1	..	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	..
Bincleaves Road	5	1A	3A	1A	..	1	4	2	2	3	1A1B	4	10	17	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	4	..	..	..	..
Backwater Bridge	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Burdon's Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
Clarence Buildings	1	..	1A	..	1	..	2	1	1	1	1B	2	2	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Carlton Road	5	1A	1A1B	2A	3	1	5	4	3	3	2A1B	5	10	16	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	..	..
Chelmsford Street	4	2A	1A	1A	2	2	4	3	4	4	4A	1	5	6	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	..
Commercial Road	2	..	2A	..	1	1	2	2	2	2	2B	2	3	3	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	..
Clearmount Road	1	..	..	1A	..	..	..	..	..	..	1A	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Clearmount Terrace	3	..	2A1B	..	2	1	3	1	1	2	1B	5	3	6	1	1	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..
Chapel Row	5	..	4A1B	..	1	4	5	5	4	4	4A	4	4	6	..	5	3	..	5	5	4	..	..	..	..	..
Chapelhay Street	5	..	5A	..	1	4	6	7	2	2	1A1B	7	5	10	..	5	..	5	5	4	5	2	..	..	..	..
Cove Street	1	..	1A	..	1	..	2	2	1	2	1B	3	1	2	..	1	2	..	..	..	2	2	2	..	..	..
Chickerell Road	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	5	..	..	..	..
Cromwell Road	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
Charles Street	1	..	1A	..	1	..	1	1	1	1	1B	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Clifton Place	1	..	1A	..	1	1	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Cobourg Place	1	..	1B	..	1	..	1	1	1	1	1B	1	2	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Dorset Place	13	..	11A	2A	8	5	11	12	9	10	9A1B	7	18	19	7	3	1	..	3	3	4	1	1	..	..	..
Dorchester Road	7	..	5A2B	..	3	2	15	4	4	13	4A3B	14	24	44	1	..	..	..	1	1	1	3	..	..	1	..
Derby Street	1	..	1A	..	1	..	1	1	1	1	1A	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Devonshire Buildings	2	..	2A	..	2	..	4	2	2	2	2A	2	2	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
East Street	6	..	5A1B	..	3	3	6	3	5	5	1A4B	5	7	9	2	4	..	3	1	4	2	1	..	1	1	1
St. Edmund's Street	2	..	1A1B	..	..	1	2	2	2	2	1A1B	2	3	..	2	1	..	1	1	1	2	2	..	..	..	..
Emmadale Road	1	..	..	1A	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	2	..	..	..	..
East Row	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
Franchise Street	4	..	4A	..	4	..	5	4	4	4	4A	..	4	7	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
Franklin Road	1	..	1A	..	1	..	1	..	1	1	1B	1	1	2	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	4	..	..	3	..
Gloster Row	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Governor's Lane	1	..	1A	..	1	..	1	1	1	1	1B	1	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	2	1	..	..	1
Glendenning Avenue	4	..	2A2B	..	..	2	4	1	1	5	2A2B	6	9	22	..	..	..	3	..	1	..	3	..	..	..	..
Greenhill	15	..	4A9B	2A	2	13	10	..	11	5	4A6B	6	30	69	1	1	..	..	3	3	..	13	..	..	..	..
Glen Avenue	1	..	1A	..	1	..	..	1	1	1	1A	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..
Hanover Road	2	..	2A	..	2	..	4	..	2	3	1A1B	4	6	8	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..
High Street	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..
Horsford Street	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Hartlebury Terrace	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
Hardwick Street	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..
Iiton Terrace	8	..	8A	..	8	..	8	8	9	8	9A	8	9	16	..	..	1	..	8	8	8	2	..	..	..	..
Johnstone Row	1	..	1A	..	1	..	1	1	1	1	..	1	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	2	..	..	..
Kirtleton Avenue	7	..	2A4B	1A	..	7	6	2	3	6	1A	12	10	24	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	3	..	..	..	..
King Street	1	..	1A	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Kartoum Road	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
Lansdowne Terrace	2	..	2B	..	2	..	4	2	2	3	2B	4	4	5	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Lansdowne Square	3	..	2B	1A	2	..	5	..	2	4	2B	4	6	11	2	1	..	..	..	..	1	3	..	..	..	..
St. Leonard's Road	5	..	4A1B	..	5	..	7	5	5	5	4A1B	2	6	9	1	2	3	..	..	..	2	6	..	..	..	..
Lennox Street	1	..	1A	..	1	..	2	2	1	1	1A	1	2	2	1	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..
Longhill Terrace	4	..	4A	..	1	3	6	..	1	4	1B	..	5	10	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Love Lane	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Littlefield	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
St. Mary Street	5	..	3A2B	..	3	..	6	1	3	5	2A2B	5	6	6	..	..	..	2	1	2	5	2	..	..	..	..
Maiden Street	1	..	1A	..	..	1	4	3	1	1	1B	2	2	5	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Marine Terrace	1	..	1A	..	..	1	2	1	1	1	1A	2	1	4	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Market Street	1	..	1B	..	1	..	1	1	1	1	1B	1	1	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Newberry Gardens	8	..	8A	..	3	5	8	8	1	1	1B	..	3	16	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Newberry Terrace	1	..	1A	..	..	1	2	1	1	1	1A	2	1	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..
St. Nicholas Street	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	2	..	..
Newstead Road	7	3A4B	..																							

When a house is put into a sanitary condition it is the practise of this department to give a certificate to the person carrying out the alterations, and it is advisable for the owner to obtain this certificate before paying his account. No such certificate is given unless everything is satisfactory.

Waste Pipes.

I have found great difficulty in obtaining the trapping of these pipes.

In many instances the owner considers it a fad, but by steady persistence this difficulty is gradually being overcome. The trapping of waste pipes is undoubtedly most essential and the sooner this is realised the better.

Flushing Cisterns.

Although some 214 flushing cisterns to W.C's. have been fixed by order of this department, this cannot be considered the correct number fixed in the town during the year. Cisterns are fixed in many instances without the knowledge of this department.

Special attention is now being given to the Park district in this respect, where the majority are without such apparatus, which is a great drawback, especially during the letting season when visitors arrive from all parts of the country.

The work throughout the year has been exceeding hard, and I have been unable to carry out my duties during office hours. Owing to the increased duties in house sanitation, the inspection of workshops has not been completed ; this I hope to do during the early part of the year.

In the tabular report correct details are given and a record of all inspections is kept.

The whole of this work is carried out by myself and one man, who also attends to the steam disinfecter. A spare man assists when required, whose duty it is to cleanse and keep clean all urinals.

I wish to thank my subordinate for the straightforward way he has carried out his duties. I take this opportunity of thanking the builders, plumbers, etc., generally for the kindness they have shown me and assistance given me in carrying out my duties.

STATUTORY NOTICES.

Name of Street.				No. of houses affected.	Notices served.	No. remedied.	No. not rem'd'd
18 Brownlow Street	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
29 Chapelhay Street	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
Chickerell Road	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
26 Dorset Place	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
27 Dorset Place	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
28 Dorset Place	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
5 Dorset Place*	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
40 Emmadale Road	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
Lr. St. Edmund Street	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
82 Franklin Road	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
15 Franchise Terrace	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
16 Franchise Terrace	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
17 Franchise Terrace	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
11 Glo'ster Row	...	...	...	1	1	—	1
2 Johnstone Row	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
Littlefield Crossing Cottage	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Newberry Gardens	...	...	...	5	1	5	—
6, 7, 8 Newberry Gardens	...	...	...	3	1	3	—
5 Portland Buildings	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 Prince Wales Rd.	...	...	...	6	3	—	6
31 Park Street	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
32 Park Street	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
9 Springfield Terrace	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
1, 2 Union Cottages	...	...	...	2	1	2	—
Two unoccupied houses, Spa Road	...	...	...	2	1	2	—
77 Walpole Street	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
75-6-7-8-9, 80-1 Walpole Street	...	...	...	7	1	7	—
82 Walpole Street	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
13, 15, 16, 17 William Street	...	...	...	4	1	4	—
20, 20a Penny Street	...	...	...	2	1	2	—
				53	32	46	7
Informal Notices issued...				135	128	113	15
Total				188	160	159	22

* Work carried out by the Local Authority in default of owner and expenses charged to latter.

NAME AND POSITION OF STREETS OF INSANITARY PREMISES.	No. of Houses	Defective drains	Insanitary yards	Foul and insanitary w.c. pans	W.C.'s without flushing apparatus	Drains not disconnected or ventilated	Inspection chambers improperly constructed	Bell traps fixed	Without and defective scullery sinks	Scullery sink waste not trapped	Defective walls and ceilings	Dirty and dilapidated premises	Drains choked	Overcrowding	Offensive accumulations	Defective fresh air inlets	Defective gutter and down spouts	Fowls—kept insanitary	Cesspool in use
Alexandra Road	11	10	7	10	8	9	2	6	6	3	4	3	..	..	..	1	5	..	..
Abbotsbury Road	8	8	6	10	8	..	2	1	6	7	1	..	1	1	..	6	1	1	..
Avenue Road	1	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..
St. Alban's Street	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..
Ashton Road	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..
Albert Street	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Augusta Place	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	..	1	2	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..
Buxton Road	4	4	..	1	..	..	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belvidere Terrace	1	1	1	1	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Brunswick Terrace	1	1	..	1	1	..	1	..	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..
Bank Buildings	2	2	2	2	2	1	..	2	1	2	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Brownlow Street	1	1	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Bond Street	2	2	..	2	..	2	..	2	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Bath Street	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	1	1	1	..	1	..	1	..	..
Bingleaves Road	4	4	1	..	..	1	3	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..
Backwater Bridge .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Burdon's Buildings .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Clarence Buildings	2	2	2	2	2	..	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Carlton Road	3	3	..	2	1	1	2	..	1	3	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chelmsford Street	2	2	2	2	2	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Commercial Road	3	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	..	2	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Clearmount Road	3	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
Clearmount Terrace	4	3	4	4	3	..	1	1	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..
Chapel Row	6	6	6	6	6	6	..	..	6	..	6	2	..	..	..	..	6	3	..
Chapelhay Street	5	5	1	5	5	5	..	..	4	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	..
Cove Street	3	..	1	..	..	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	1	..
Chickerell Road	20	20	15	15	19	5	12	1	15	20	13	10	7	..	1	12	15	1	..
Cromwell Road	2	..	2	2	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	2	1	2	..
Charles Street	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Clifton Place	1	1	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cobourg Place	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dorset Place	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	1	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..
Dorchester Road	7	7	7	7	1	..	4	..	1	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Derby Street	2	2	1	2	2	2	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..
Devonshire Buildings	2	2	2	2	2	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
East Street	7	7	5	7	3	6	..	2	3	6	3	3	1	..	1	1	1	..	1
St. Edmund's Street	2	2	1	1	1	1	..	..	2	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..
Emmadale Road	3	2	3	3	2	1	1	..	..	3	..	1	2	..	..	2	..	..	..
East Rows	2	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Franchise Street	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Franklin Road	4	3	4	4	..	..	..	..	..	4	3	3	2	..	2	..	1	1	..
Fernhill Road	30	30	12	16	..	30	..	..	6	30	20	12	1	..	..	..	26	..	..
Gloster Row	1	1	..	1	..	1	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Governors Lane	2	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	1
Glendenning Avenue	4	4	2	..	1	..	2	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Greenhill	15	13	1	2	1	1	13	1	1	8	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..
Glen Avenue	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hanover Road	2	2	2	..	..	2	..	1	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
High Street	4	4	4	3	3	3	1	..	4	..	3	2	1	..	..	1	3	..	..
Horsford Street	1	..	1	1	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Hartlebury Terrace	1	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hardwicke Street	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ilton Terrace	8	8	8	8	8	..	8	..	..	8	8	6	..	..	..	4	8	1	..
Johnstone Row	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Kirtleton Avenue	7	7	1	3	2	..	5	..	..	12	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..
King Street	2	2	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kartoum Road	3	3	3	3	..	..	..	..	3	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
Lansdowne Terrace	2	2	..	2	2	1	1	..	1	2	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Lansdowne Square	3	3	2	1	..	..	..	2	1	4	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
St. Leonard's Road	6	6	6	6	6	6	..	1	2	4	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..
Lennox Street	3	2	2	3	2	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..
Love Lane	1	1	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Littlefield	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
St. Mary Street	7	6	3	2	1	3	1	..	1	5	2	1	2	..	2	..	3	..	..
Maiden Street	1	1	..	1	1	1	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marine Terrace	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Market Street	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Newberry Terrace	1	1	..	2	1	1	..	..	..	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Nicholas Street	1	1	..	1	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	2	..	1	..	..
New Street .....	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
Newstead Road	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
North Quay	1	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Orion Road	1	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Park Street	7	7	4	5	4	7	2	4	2	6	..	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	..
Penny Street	2	2	2	2	2	2	..	..	2	2	2	2	2	..	..	..	1	..	..
Portland Buildings	2	2	1	2	2	2	..	3	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Quay	1	1	1	2	1	1	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Radipole Terrace	5	5	5	4	2	5	..	2	..	5	3	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	..
Royal Terrace	2	2	1	5	2	2	..	..	2	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ranelagh Road	1	1	1	2	2	1	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rodwell Avenue	2	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rodwell	4	4	2	..	..	..	4	4	1	8	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..
School Street	1	1	1	2	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Spring Terrace	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Seymour Street	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Spring Lane	3	3	3	3	3	3	..	1	3	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	..
South Parade	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Silver Street .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Stewart's Court	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	1	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Spa Road	5	3	2	6	1	..	4	1	..	5	2	2	1	..	2	..	2	..	..
South Parade Court	7	7	7	7	6	7	..	..	6	1	3	4	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
Sunny Terrace	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
Trinity Street	4	3	3	6	3	3	..	4	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Upway Street	4	4	4	4	4	4	..	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Union Cottages	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	1	1	..	..	..</				



Number of Tests made to drains	...	574
Number of Visits :—		
Sanitary	... ..	2091
Homeworkers	... ..	57
Workshops	... ..	67
Laundries	... ..	43
Infectious Disease	... ..	62
Midwives	... ..	32
Phthisis	... ..	24
Notification of Births	... ..	273
Re-visits	... ..	220
Infantile Deaths	... ..	6
Complaints, etc., various	... ..	26
Total	..	3475

F. A. FANNER, A.R.SAN.I.,
Sanitary Inspector.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

All adoptive Acts in connection with the existence of Infectious Disease, have been adopted by the Council, and those in the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907 came in force on January 1st, 1910. These latter give increased powers to deal with infected persons carrying on occupations, with dairymen within and without the district, with schools, with library books, and with cleansing and disinfection etc., though some of the provisions were previously included in the Weymouth Improvement Act.

From the 1st of January, 1909, Pulmonary Tuberculosis or Consumption became compulsorily notifiable as an Infectious Disease so far as cases coming under the Poor Law were concerned.

The district Medical Officers and the Medical Officer of the Workhouse, have to notify cases occurring in their practice as such, and the Master of the Workhouse and the Relieving Officer

have to notify changes of address in Consumptive persons, receiving Poor Law relief.

Voluntary Notification of Pulmonary Tuberculosis has been in operation since 1905, but is practically a dead letter, only one case being notified.

Apart from legal notifications of the notifiable diseases, first information of the non-notifiable diseases, and in some cases suspicions as to notifiable diseases, is received from the Elementary School Teachers.

The School Medical Officer and Medical Officer of Health being the same person, and the School Attendance Officer being to a great extent under the direction of the School Medical Officer, together with the cordial relations, in fact active partnership that exists between the Medical Authority and the School Teachers, has brought about a very effective and prompt method of detection of the non-notifiable diseases.

NOTIFICATIONS.

The year has been on the whole a very favourable one. The number of notifications actually made being 34, excluding tuberculosis. This represents a sickness rate, as regards diseases notifiable of 1·5 per 1000 of the population. The subjoined table gives the numbers and rates for the previous ten years—

		Numbers.	Rate.			Numbers.	Rate.
1900	...	—	5·9	1905	...	31	1·4
1901	...	—	14·0	1906	...	90	3·7
1902	...	179	8·8	1907	...	68	2·7
1903	...	28	1·3	1908	...	157	6·6
1904	...	8	0·3	1909	...	125	5·4

In each year, so careful are the medical profession that the good report of the town should not be interfered with, a certain number of cases are notified where there is reasonable cause to suspect the disease is an infectious case. In practically all these I am asked to consult, and in some it is considered advisable to have the cases removed to hospital for observation.

Five such cases were notified, but subsequently the notifications were cancelled. Of the 34 official notifications, 27 were removed and treated in the Borough Isolation Hospital, one was treated in the military hospital, and one in the workhouse infirmary.

Fifteen cases were notified from Weymouth and 19 from Melcombe Regis. Full particulars will be found in Table III. of the Appendix.

SCARLET FEVER.

This disease may be fairly stated not to have existed within the Borough during the year, as though five cases were notified—one proving later not to be scarlet—the four remaining proved cases were, as regards three of them, directly imported into the town, the patients sickening in all cases, within the period of incubation, after their arrival within the town from districts where scarlet fever existed. The fourth case was suspected to have caught the infection from a child returning to the town after being discharged from hospital in a neighbouring town as convalescent from scarlet fever. This child was later found to have a purulent discharge from the ear.

With one exception the cases were removed and treated in hospital. The case nursed at home unfortunately developed cranial symptoms and abscess, which may possibly have been due to the insanitary condition of the dwelling, and died.

DIPHTHERIA.

With the exception of the months of April and May isolated cases of this disease occurred throughout each month.

Thirty-one cases in all were notified, four being cancelled at a later date, leaving a net number of 27. This affected 19 houses.

It has been found impossible to trace any certain source of infection in the majority of the cases. They were sporadic, and

except in one instance were disconnected as to schools, districts, milk supply, visitors, or any known means of conveying infection.

In the Autumn months several cases appeared in succession in Fernhill Road. The incubation period, and the intermingling of the children on their way to school and at play, etc., was fairly positive evidence that the eight cases arising therewith were personal infection by series from the first.

Eight deaths are registered as due to diphtheria as the primary cause. Of these six occurred in the Isolation Hospital. This is rather a heavy death rate and is due in great cause to delay in treatment. I think it is generally accepted, and capable of proof, that the earlier antitoxin is used the greater the probabilities of recovery. Many years ago I formed this conclusion, and continued experience has confirmed it. Many of these deaths were preventible, had medical advice been sought early and antitoxin in sufficient quantities been injected on the first suspicion of the case.

In August of this year, so prevalent had this opinion become that it was adopted by the Local Government Board, and made the subject of an Order, whereby the Local Authority are empowered to provide a supply of antitoxin and medical attendance in connection therewith for the use of the poorer inhabitants of their District. The Local Authority are urged to bring this Order under the notice of the medical practitioners of the District, with particulars as to where the gratuitous supply of antitoxin can be had, and to direct them as to the importance of prompt treatment, by antitoxin in all cases, where they have suspicion of the disease, and not to wait the result of bacteriological examination.

It is to be regretted that considerable delay has arisen in the Borough as to the carrying out of the provisions of the Order, and with unsatisfactory results.

ESYSIPELAS.

No cases were notified.

Whether this freedom is a further proof of the improvement

in the general sanitary condition of the Town, remains to be seen in future years.

SMALL POX, VARIOLA.

No cases or suspicious cases or notifications of contacts from ports were reported.

I cannot but view with apprehension, the continued increase in the number of children who are unprotected from attacks of Small Pox, by Vaccination. Amongst the children attending the Elementary Schools between the ages of 4 and 13, 31% are unvaccinated, out of a total of 4000 examined.

ENTERIC FEVER.

Two cases were notified. The first, that of a child aged nine, was not bacteriologically confirmed, and was mild throughout. The source of infection was inferred to be water-cress. The second, that of a soldier in barracks, was only diagnosed at a late period of the illness, through the bacteriological test, and considerable doubt still remains as to whether this was a case. Roughly the history of the illness is this—admitted to Military Hospital July 30th, for Pyrexia (feverishness) which disappeared on August 6th, discharged as convalescent on the 10th, readmitted on the 14th for Pyrexia only ; Widal test of blood made, result negative. No probable cause of Pyrexia being found, a second Widal test was made on the 25th, with a positive result. No other symptoms of Enteric Fever, made an uninterrupted recovery. No source of infection (carrier or otherwise) could be traced.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations 1908, this disease so far as the Poor Law patients are concerned, is a compulsorily notifiable disease.

Voluntary notification was instituted in the Borough in 1905, with a view of treating Incipient Cases in the Isolation Hospital, and instructing the sufferers in the best means available for home treatment, and the prevention of infection to others, but this form of notification has proved useless. One case in an advanced state was notified, but too late for the purpose intended, the man being then confined to bed, and shortly after died.

Eight cases were notified by the District Medical Officer for the Weymouth District, under the above Regulations.

The routine under this Act is for a visit to be paid, shortly after notification, and some instruction given as to precautions to be observed, at the same time a printed card containing these instructions is left. If the patient is spitting, a pocket flask for their use is left, and disinfectant supplied.

If the case is not confined to the house they are encouraged to report at the office, otherwise the Health Visitor visits at intervals. No interference with work occurs. Deaths from Phthisis are immediately notified by the Registrar, and the relatives are encouraged to have the rooms and bedding disinfected. This is carried out practically in all cases.

The number of deaths from this disease still continues high, but this to a certain extent is discounted by people in an early stage of the disease coming from inland districts to live here for the benefit of their health, and eventually succumbing to its ravages. The subject of serum treatment for tuberculosis is being brought prominently forward in some towns as being more efficacious, and infinitely less expensive, than sanatorium treatment. I shall watch with interest the experiment of a neighbouring county borough in this direction during the coming year.

The death rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis is $\cdot 56$ per 1000, a considerable reduction on former years, but still too high.

MEASLES.

A severe outbreak of Measles was prevalent in the two latter months of the year.

The course of this outbreak is rather interesting as shewing what the selfish carelessness of one person can bring about.

In November the Head Mistress of St. Mary's Infant School, informed me that one infant was absent, stated to be suffering from Measles. A visit to the house was paid, when it was found that a younger child in the Baby Room (the absence of which from school was not enquired into, being under five), had contracted the disease whilst away from home. From a fear of interference with his business (which so far as the Health Department was concerned, was not justified) he concealed the nature of the complaint, and this child returned to school at an early date. Following hard day by day throughout the same week as the first case, came numerous other cases. Every possible step was taken to limit the outbreak to the first cases, and circulars were sent to every known Sunday School, asking them to co-operate with us by excluding children whose names were furnished them. A fortnight later it was found necessary to close the Infant School, and a second circular was sent to the Sunday Schools advising them of this, and again asking their co-operation.

I regret very much that the response to this and future requests to the different religious denominations was not general, and in consequence of this, and directly through contact in Sunday Schools or Children's Services, the disease spread to the other Elementary Schools, and became general to such an extent that it was considered advisable to close all the Infant Schools until after the Xmas holidays.

Three deaths resulted during the year from Measles, as the primary cause.

I should like to call attention here to the idea that generally exists, that Measles is a disease that children must have, and the consequent lack of even the most ordinary precaution against danger of infection, practised by the majority of mothers. Many

deliberately expose them to the risk, with the expressed desire of getting it all over at one time.

It should be widely known, that the Death Rate throughout the Country for Measles is greater than that of any other Infectious Disease, many of which are supposed to be more virulent and fatal.

It is this idea also, that tends to nullify all action taken to check an outbreak, once it has become known to be prevalent.

WHOOPING COUGH (PERTUSSIS).

Though two deaths are registered as due primarily to whooping cough, no cases have been known to us to exist. There had been no notification from any school as to the existence of this complaint.

CHICKEN POX (VARICELLA).

This also has been absent throughout the year, with the exception of a few isolated cases.

MUMPS.

No authenticated cases known.

In connection with all the Infectious Diseases the following routine is carried out :—Upon report of a case, if no Doctor is in attendance, a visit is paid by the School Nurse or the M.O.H. to verify the diagnosis. Verbal and printed instructions suited to each disease is then given, as regards isolation and quarantine of contacts. Similar instructions are sent to each school that may be affected by attendance, and no child, sufferer or contact is allowed to return to school without a certificate from the M.O.H. that it may do so. Any employer likely to be affected is also notified. But where a patient is moved to the Isolation Hospital at once and effective disinfection carried out it is rare that interference with labour is necessary.

EPIDEMIC DIARRHŒA.

No deaths were this year registered as due to the above, and, as stated elsewhere, we attribute our comparative immunity from this fatal infantile complaint to the great improvement in sanitary conditions of recent years, and the more effective supervision over infant life and feeding. Three deaths of infants are due to gastro-enteritis, and a history of these is given under Infantile Deaths.

In former years and Reports the deaths from Diarrhœa from all causes have been clumped together, and doing so again the death rate would equal $\cdot 13$ per 1000, the lowest rate recorded. The rates for the eight previous years are given for purposes of comparison :—

1902	...	0·39	1906	...	0·6
1903	...	0·29	1907	...	0·3
1904	...	0·43	1908	...	0·25
1905	...	0·8	1909	...	0·3
		1910	...		·13

CANCER.

Thirty-one deaths were registered as from malignant disease. This is equal to a rate of $1\cdot 34$ per 1000 inhabitants, a great increase on former years.

The corresponding rates for former years are as under :—

1900	...	0·50	1905	...	0·71
1901	...	1·05	1906	...	0·9
1902	...	0·59	1907	...	0·64
1903	...	0·63	1908	...	0·93
1904	...	0·97	1909	...	0·58

The average for the ten years is $0\cdot 83$ per 1000

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The Borough Isolation Hospital is outside the Borough boundary, near Chickerell, in the Weymouth Rural District. It is situated in an enclosed piece of ground $5\frac{1}{2}$ acres in extent. It is built of galvanised iron, wood lined, and heated by slow combustion stoves.

It consists of a central administration block and two detached ward blocks, connected by a covered passage-way with the central block, a laundry block and other outbuildings. Accommodation is provided for twenty patients in each block.

During 1910 31 cases have been admitted into the hospital, and these may be classified as under :—

Diphtheria	...	...	...	24
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	3
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	1
Observation	...	...	...	3

The permanent Staff consists of Matron and two Nurses, and the usual domestic staff. Additional Nursing Staff is obtained when necessary from the Trained Nurses Institute. This has not been necessary during the year.

The former Small Pox Hospital, which adjoins this, and has a separate administration department, is now available for general isolation purposes, or for tuberculosis, should occasion arise, giving a total number of 48 beds and allowing four distinct infectious diseases to be nursed at the same time.

No special provision of a building has been made for the treatment of Small Pox, but arrangements have been made whereby a suitable site and temporary accommodation can immediately be obtained.

DISINFECTION.

Disinfection of rooms is carried out by means of a Mackenzie Pneumatic Sprayer, and generally a solution of Formaldehyde,

but other disinfectants are used in special circumstances, such as Perchloride of Mercury solution, Sulphur Dioxide Gas and the Cresols.

Disinfection of articles of bedding, clothing, etc., is carried out at the Corporation Yard by means of a Washington-Lyons Disinfector and superheated steam and hot air. It has the merit of being as efficient a means as is known, and in our hands has also the merit that damage to articles by wetting has not been complained of.

Undernoted is a schedule of the articles, etc., disinfected during the year.

Articles.			Disinfected.	Destroyed.	Total.
Blankets ...	...	...	169	—	169
Towels ...	...	...	112	1	113
Curtains ...	...	...	187	—	187
Sheets ...	...	...	232	—	232
Pillows ...	...	...	264	—	264
Quilts ...	...	...	78	—	78
Mattresses	...	...	39	17	56
Beds ...	...	...	93	8	101
Carpets ...	...	...	68	1	69
Cushions ...	...	...	23	—	23
Rugs ...	...	...	34	—	34
Bolsters ...	...	...	69	—	69
Vallances	...	...	20	—	20
Clothes ...	...	...	1140	6	1146
Sundry Articles...	...	...	1331	Toys, Books, and 1 Bag	} 1334
Rooms ...	...	...	129	—	
Total ...			3988	36	4024



BIRTHS.

443 Births were registered, the smallest number and the lowest rate per 1000 ever recorded. The birth rate throughout the country has, however, declined in nearly the same rates.

The rate is equal to 18·8 per 1000, nearly 5 per 1000 under the average for the previous ten years, and 1·6 under that of last year, which also was the lowest previous recorded rate since the extension of the Borough.

The sex distribution and the crude rate for the two divisions are as under. They show, as in former years, a remarkable difference.

		Males.	Females.	Total	Rate per 1000
Weymouth	...	134	146	280	24·3
Melcombe Regis	...	79	75	154	13·3
		<u>213</u>	<u>221</u>	<u>434</u>	<u>18·8</u>

Of the Births 16 are illegitimate, 11 being credited to Weymouth and 5 to Melcombe Regis. This is equal to 3·6 per cent. of the whole. The average illegitimate birth rate for the previous seven years (these being the only records available) is 3·5 per cent.



DEATHS.

The total number of deaths registered as occurring within the district is 302, a number nearly approaching last year, and slightly less than the 10 years' average. This does not represent the real death rate of residents in the Borough, as of this number some 23 were deaths of people brought into Hospitals or Institutions from outside districts. At the same time we have also a certain number of residents who die in Institutions in other districts. Making the necessary correction we have a nett number of 284 deaths, equal to a rate of 12·3 per 1000 on the estimated population. This is 1 per 1000 under the seven years' average.

This figure still includes a considerable number of deaths of persons who are only visitors in the borough, many having come in search of health and only with a faint hope of prolonging life. It is not permissible to exclude any such deaths, though we are not allowed to add these on to the population as residents. Thus

in a health resort of this type the death rate cannot be taken as a true index of the condition of the town. Excluding, as far as is known, the deaths of Visitors the rate would be 11·8.

Forty-five per cent. of the deaths are those of persons 65 years of age and upwards, and a large proportion of this number are certified as due to senile decay.

There is still an undue proportion of deaths due to Phthisis and Chest and Heart Diseases.

The deaths of females are in excess of those of males ; the opposite is the usual throughout the country generally.

Accidents have caused an unusually large number of deaths. Fifteen deaths are certified by the Coroner ; one death is uncertified by either Coroner or Doctor.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

It is a generally accepted fact that the Infantile death rate is a sure and safe index of the progress of a district towards perfect sanitary conditions, and it is most gratifying to be able to show under this heading a great diminution. It is not an accidental diminution but a steady and continued one.

It has happened in an occasional year previously that a low infantile death rate has occurred, but this has either been preceded or followed by an abnormally high one ; and for many years the ten years' average has varied between 115 and 109, with a steady tendency to decrease.

In 1902 a change in the method of administration of the Health Department was made, and a crusade instituted against insanitary conditions generally, and it is shortly after this date that a noticeable improvement in health conditions begins to manifest itself.

The former lethargy was difficult to overcome, and unfortunately was not confined alone to the outside public, but permeated the department, and the improvement was slow

indeed. A house divided against itself cannot stand, and it soon became manifest that if the town was to have any return for the money it expended on the Health Department, the staff would have to alter its ways. The struggle began, and in spite of internal opposition certain vital matters to the preservation of infant health was gained.

Towards the end of 1908 a Health Visitor was installed, and a second step forward was made. In 1909 a new Sanitary Inspector was appointed, and what might be termed the final step was gained towards efficiency. This retrospect is necessary as pointing the moral of placing active and effective service, as the first principle of a Council, in the engagement, retention, and remuneration of its officials.

The continued and steady decrease in the number of infantile deaths has been most marked during the last three years, when the effects of former measures began to be felt. The causes may be summed up in—(1), improvement in the sanitary condition of the cowsheds and milkshops; (2), improvement in the sanitary conditions of the houses of the working classes; (3), the education of the mothers in the methods of rearing infants. Towards this latter the most effective means have been those of the Health Visitor, Nurse Lethbridge, and the Notification of Births Act.

It has only been too evident this year that ignorance has caused the death of many a promising infant, and that passive neglect as distinct from active cruelty was more rife than was supposed. At least four children were saved from lingering torture, and some others from serious illnesses that would have probably resulted in death or impairment of their system, but for the advice tendered by the Health Visitor.

In the four cases mentioned, where the neglect was such as would have brought the parent or guardian under the Criminal law, it was found necessary for the Medical Officer to visit, and the results have been most satisfactory.

The Infantile Death Rate has by these means been brought down to the exceedingly low rate of 55·3 per 1000 births. In 1909 it was 78·8, and in 1908, 93.

Of the total number of 24 deaths, ten at least are due to ante-natal causes. Eight of these are certified as due to premature birth and deficient vitality from birth, and four of these only lived a few hours.

The deaths from Diarrhœal diseases total three. All these were bottle-fed, and the Health Visitor's report in each of the cases is as under :—

Age at death, four months, delicate from, and under doctor's care since birth, cleft palate and unable to retain or digest its food.

Age at death, six weeks, child bottle-fed ; admitted that grandparent had fed child with boiled bread and biscuits.

Age at death, six weeks, vomiting more or less from birth ; suffered from Hernia ; cause of death, Gastro-enteritis and Marasmus.

Of children breast-fed none have died from Gastro-intestinal diseases.

One death is certified by the Coroner as from starvation. This child was under the supervision of the Health Visitor, having been put out to nurse, and between her visits had been so cruelly neglected as to die. The guardians of the child were prosecuted for manslaughter at the assizes and found guilty.

The improvement in the Illegitimate Infantile Death Rate is even more manifest, only one death being recorded, equal to a rate of 62·5 per 1000 births. The previous illegitimate death rates are :—

1903	...	415·7 per 1000	1907	...	250 per 1000
1904	...	not recorded	1908	...	182 „
1905	...	„ „	1909	...	150 „
1906	...	182 per 1000	1910	...	62·5 „

It needs no remarks of mine to point out the immense gain to the community that results from this preservation of infant life. Not only the preservation of life, but the preservation of health in the child is now looked after from the moment of its birth until it has reached the age for work.

If the birth rate is declining, it behoves us more and more to preserve in health and strength those that are born. Compared with 1899, there is a saving this year of 133 children for every 1,000 born, or a direct saving of 50 children if the number of births in this year had been the same as that year.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT.

This Act received the consent of the L.G.B. to its adoption, in November, 1908, but notifications under it did not really commence until January 1st.

A Summary of the Provisions of the Act was sent to all the medical men and midwives in the town, pointing out to them what they were called upon to do. Stamped and addressed cards for them to fill in were provided. Advertisements were inserted in the papers, posters, etc., were posted throughout the town also, giving a concise Summary of the Act and informing parents and householders of their duty.

At the beginning of the year omissions were many, and there are still omissions, but they are gradually being reduced. I receive each Monday morning, from the Registrar of Births, a full return of all the births registered during the previous week and these are carefully compared with the notifications received from Parents, Doctors or Midwives, so that all omissions come to light, but as six weeks are allowed for Registration, these omissions do not come to our notice as a general rule until after that period, when the benefit of the Act is to a great extent nullified.

Being the first year of the Act I have not been too stringent with parents, though I have called the attention of the defaulting medical practitioners to their sins of omission. Now that a reasonable time has elapsed, defaulting parents must also be brought into line in the future.

The greatest sinners have been some members of my own profession, not all but a few.

Medical men contend that they receive no fee for notifying, and that the State has no right to call upon them to perform a duty for its benefit, without due remuneration. I quite agree with them, I think they ought to be paid. No profession gives more gratuitous work than does the medical profession, and their generosity in this way is continually victimized.

I do not however hold with those members who wilfully break the law. It is the law and it is the duty of all law-abiding citizens to observe such laws, whether they agree with them or not, and use constitutional methods for their repeal. Therefore during the ensuing year it will be my duty to report all such failures as come to my notice and ask for penalties.

The number of notifications received from all sources have been 575, referring to 414 births, of this number 134 were notified by doctors, 325 by midwives, and 116 by parents. Of course many of the notifications were duplicated, and some few were thrice notified, but it is much better that this should occur than that no notification should be received.

Of the number of children born this year, the Registrar has notified 398.

Thirty-four Births have been notified by the Registrar alone.

Of the total number of Births, 17 have been still births. This is the first time in the history of the district, that a definite account of still births has been kept.

The routine adopted here, has been for the Health Visitor on the receipt of a notification, to visit the parent, after the visits of the Midwife or Doctor has ceased—if in my opinion the case is one suited for such a visit—and to tender advice as to the rearing of the infant, at the same time leaving a printed card of instructions as to feeding and rearing.

The difficulty in introducing a new Act of this type has been great, and much has depended upon the character of the Official. Having seen Nurse Lethbridge's work amongst the school children for over a year, I had no fear of her ability to carry out the difficult duty thrown upon her, without offending the susceptibilities of the parents.

Her tactfulness and kindly sympathetic manners have succeeded in rendering her beloved of all; gentle but firm where necessary, her advice is now eagerly sought by all with whom she has come into contact, and mothers delight to bring their children to her to shew how they are coming on.

She is indefatigable in the performance of her duties, manifold and multiple as they are, and this town is to be congratulated in the possession of such an officer. Under this Act she has paid 493 visits to 273 children.

It was unfortunately necessary, in the early part of the year, to take strong steps in regard to one case of gross neglect, which ended in the death of the child—a nurse child—and Nurse Lethbridge and myself were called upon to give evidence before the Coroner, and at the assizes, which resulted in a verdict—as mentioned elsewhere—of manslaughter against the people having charge of the infant. This prosecution has had a good effect, as a warning from this office is now carefully regarded by those inclined towards carelessness and neglect.

The only real difficulty found has been, not with parents of children, but with grandparents. The Visitor is frequently met by those, who inform her that they know quite sufficient. They have brought up, say, seven and buried five or so, and they need no instruction. It speaks, however, greatly for the tact of the Nurse and the common sense of these people, that after a return visit and a kindly chat, the opposition has been broken down. It occasionally occurs, however—and one death may reasonably be inferred to this cause—that a meal or two is tried in the old style by these estimable old lady experts, and if the child survives these experiments—and it is only the strong, healthy child that can do so—great is their jubilation, and they grow wiser in their own conceit.

The great need in this direction of saving Infant Life is to begin the education of girls in the rearing, feeding, and dressing of infants, in their last year at school. The subject of a Creche, somewhere in the centre of the town, where children could be brought daily and cared for, is one requiring serious

consideration. So many mothers must perforce work, to add to the scanty earnings of the father, and find the care of the child a great hindrance. These would willingly pay a small sum to have the child or children carefully looked after during working hours.

The raising of the age for entry to infant schools to five years of age has accentuated this need to a considerable extent this year, which must increase during the next year, as it has been the custom to send children to the infant schools at three years, more for the purpose of having them taken care of than for educational gain.

The effect upon infectious outbreaks of the usage of infant schools as creches is mentioned elsewhere.



DEATHS FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

The Zymotic death rate of the Registrar General refers to the rate caused by deaths from the seven principal Zymotic diseases, as follows: Small Pox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Fever (Typhus, Enteric, other Continued), and Diarrhœa.

In the instructions issued to Medical Officers of Health as regards the differentiation of the cause of death, the following notes occur as regards Diarrhœa, etc.

(*e*) Under the heading of "Diarrhœa" are to be included deaths registered as due to Epidemic diarrhœa, Epidemic enteritis, Infective enteritis, Zymotic enteritis, Summer diarrhœa, Dysentery and Dysenteric diarrhœa, Choleraic diarrhœa, Cholera (other than Asiatic or epidemic), and Cholera Nostras.

Deaths from diarrhœa secondary to some other well-defined disease should be included under the latter.

Deaths from Enteritis, Muco-Enteritis, Gastro-Enteritis, and Gastritis (see under the heading Diarrhœal Diseases in Table V.) in Tables IV. and V. should

be placed immediately below, but separately from, those enumerated under the heading *Diarrhœa* as defined by enumeration above. This is particularly important for deaths under one year of age, as many of the deaths in infancy returned as due to *Enteritis* are really caused by *Epidemic Diarrhœa*. In the course of years, by the adoption of this recommendation, it will be practicable to ascertain the probable amount of transfer between these different headings.

Not all medical men are as precise in their nomenclature of disease, in the death certificates they sign, as is desirable for the due observance of these notes, and it is difficult at times without further enquiry to accurately decide under which heading to enter some deaths.

From the careful enquiries now made in every case, it is possible for us to determine with reasonable accuracy whether a death from *Diarrhœal* diseases, should be included among the *Zymotics* or not.

During 1910, 14 deaths are thus classified, equal to a rate of ·6 per 1000 population. Though this is under the general average for the Country, it is still in my estimation too high.

For many years the death rate from *Diphtheria* has materially swelled that of the *Zymotic* death rate, and under that disease I make some remarks as to the causes of this.

The following table gives the number and averages from the year 1902—1909. The only years that accurate records are available.

Table shewing the number of Deaths from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases in the eight years 1902—1909, and in the year 1910.

Disease.	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	8 years Average	Deaths 1910	Death Rates
Measles ...	1	8	1	2	—	6	—	1	2·3	3	·13
Scarlet Fever ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	6	14	2·7	1	·04
Whooping Cough	—	1	5	3	1	—	4	1	1·8	2	·08
Diphtheria ...	2	—	—	3	6	3	2	12	3·5	8	·34
Fever {	Enteric	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Continued	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	·5	—	—
Diarrhœa ...	—	—	—	5	7	3	3	2	2·5	—	—
Totals ...	5	10	6	14	14	12	15	32	13·3	14	—
Zymotic Death Rate per 1,000 population }	·24	·49	·29	·67	·6	·5	·6	1·4	·6	—	·6

MIDWIVES ACT.

To the Medical Officer of Health.

I beg to submit my annual report on the working of the Midwives Act.

The Midwives Act of 1902 and the Central Midwives Board have laid down definite rules which have to be observed by all midwives in practice.

Section 1, par. 2, says:—"From and after the 1st day of April, 1910, no woman shall habitually and for gain attend woman in child-birth, otherwise than under the direction of a qualified medical practitioner, unless she be certified under this Act. Any woman so acting without being certified under this Act shall be liable to a fine not exceeding ten pounds; provided this section shall not apply to legally qualified practitioners, or to any one rendering assistance in case of emergency."

The Central Midwives Board recently (in view of certain cases of hardship) passed a rule extending the time of application for registration as a midwife, to those who had been in bona fide practice as a midwife prior to 1902, until September 30th, 1910. A circular letter to this effect was written by the Medical Officer of Health, and sent to all supposed to be eligible.

Several availed themselves of the opportunity and made application, but were considered ineligible, one woman only being granted the certificate of the Central Midwives Board, and enrolled as a midwife.

Section 10 :—"Every woman certified under this Act shall, before holding herself out as a practising midwife, or commencing to practise as a midwife in any area, give notice in writing of her intention so to do to the Local Supervising Authority, and shall give a like notice in the month of January in every year thereafter during which she continues to practise in such area."

Fourteen Notifications of intention to practise were received during 1910 from certificated midwives. Of this number, twelve are registered under "prior practise" and two under certificates of an examining body. Three new midwives have been added to the list and one has retired from practise.

Regular and systematic inspections were made of the houses and outfits of midwives.

The registers of cases are fairly well kept and more up to date than formerly.

The bags and necessary appliances, are kept clean and are in good condition with only two exceptions, one of the older midwives who does practically very little, and one other whose appliances are incomplete.

Visits of inspection made numbered 32.

Notifications of still-births numbered 5.

Two cases of Puerperal Fever were notified during the year, in connection with which the necessary precautions were taken for the prevention of further infection, and the midwives in attendance suspended for the period required for disinfection.

One case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum was notified. The midwife appeared before the Committee, who resolved to report to the Central Midwives Board. She was severely censured by the Central Midwives Board, who required a further report as to her general conduct being made to them in three months time. At the end of that time the report from the Local Supervising Authority being a satisfactory one, her certificate was returned to her.

In accordance with rule 21, the Act requires the midwife to send notice to the Local Supervising Authority when she has to send for medical aid.

Twenty-four notifications were received by the Medical Officer of Health that medical aid was required.

In consequence of, and to prevent any misunderstanding arising from the Notification of Births Act not being fully understood, the M.O.H. issued an invitation to all the midwives practising within the Borough, to meet him at the Municipal Offices, on April 6th. It is gratifying to know that with one or two exceptions, they all attended. The M.O.H. explained to them their duties and responsibilities, the meaning of recent Acts, the causes of Puerperal Septicaemia Ophthalmia Neonatorum, and the cause and prevention of Thrush, which most old fashioned nurses seem to believe it is quite natural for baby to have. The majority of the midwives registered under prior practice are uneducated, and have received little or no training; that they greatly benefited by the lecture, and are amenable to advice, is evidenced by the comparatively few cases of thrush to be found when visiting young infants under the Notification of Births Act.

I am able to report a steady and all round improvement, and a desire on the part of the midwives to conform to the rules and to carry out their duties efficiently, and the need to observe strict cleanliness in all things appertaining to midwifery.

Appended is a list of the registered and certified midwives practising within the Borough.

Name.	Address.	Number of Certificate.	Date of Certificate.
Burt, Emma	... 79 Newstead Rd.	12839 ...	Jan. 26, 1905
Fuzzard, Eliza Maria	5 Charles Street	13237 ...	Feb. 23, 1905
Fuzzard, Merina	... 17 Wesley Street	20645 ...	Apr. 27, 1905
Gordon, Sarah	... 23 Walpole Street	12921 ...	Jan. 26, 1905
Honebon, Susan	... 73 Newstead Rd.	12843 ...	Jan. 26, 1905
Mead, Elizabeth M.	Westham Cottage	19369 ...	Apr. 27, 1905
Maskell, Lucy Annie	30 St. Thomas St.	15719 ...	Mar. 23, 1905
Preston, E. A.	... 4 Franchise Court	19647 ...	Apr. 27, 1905
*Norwood, Annie	... 12 Nothe Parade	20458 ...	Apr. 27, 1905
Swyer, Eliza	... 50 Ranelagh Rd.	12994 ...	Jan. 26, 1905
†Samson, Margaretta	16 St. Leonard's rd.	25389 ...	Oct. 10, 1907
Thomas, Louisa	... 24 Emmadale Rd.	12846 ...	Jan. 26, 1905
West, Elizabeth Sarah	28 Cromwell Rd.	31109 ...	July 28, 1910
Middle, Amelia	... Broadwey	11293 ...	Mar. 24, 1910

* Holds the Certificate of the London Obstetric Society.

† Passed the Examination of the Central Midwives Board.

A. LETHBRIDGE,
Certificate Midwives Board by Exam.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

In accordance with the above Act, and with the Home Office instructions, I submit a summary of the work done under these Acts as far as they concern the Sanitary Authority.

The improvement in the general sanitary conditions of Workshops and Factories reported in previous years, continues, and this year less time has been given (in consequence of over pressure in other departments) to inspection, with the result that at the end of the year, the full quota had not been visited by December 31st, but will have been by the time this Report is in print.

Special attention has been given to such Workshops and Factories as are engaged in the making or preparing of food and drink for human consumption, with special reference to Mineral Water Factories, and the bottling of beer, etc.

It is most pleasant to report, that with one exception—due to carelessness in supervision—the methods of cleansing the bottles and the general preparation were excellent. The system in vogue in the two large Breweries within the district is one that deserves high commendation.

In the factory referred to as the exception, many of the jets for final rinsing of the bottles were choked, the water supply for soaking and washing was not changed sufficiently frequent, and the circular brushes were worn. In consequence deposits, some of them fungoid, were found in bottles supposed to be cleansed. The supervision of the principals was lax. Constant supervision by the Health Department has had a good effect.

The difficulty with Outworkers' Lists has been referred to in another place, but I may here add that it is no part of our duty to send them forms for the purpose, and if we do, it is more than lack of courtesy on the part of the employers not to return these promptly.

The Bakehouses in the district are, generally speaking, keeping up the high standard of cleanliness enacted in former years. The few to whom we have had to send notices to cleanse, etc., have been new occupiers of old premises.

The provision of castors or wheels upon troughs is insisted upon, that they may be pulled out from the wall and thorough cleansing behind and underneath allowed.

There is one underground bakehouse employing one person. Two bakehouses have been closed. In both cases these had been previously reported as being unsuitable, but had been reoccupied without notice to the Factory Inspector.

LAUNDRIES.

There are 3 Factory Laundries on the Register (one of these was burned during the year and at the close of the year has not been rebuilt), 11 workshops and 33 nondescript, it is difficult to use any other word for the major portion of these 33.

The occupiers claim them to be domestic workshops, that is employing no labour outside members of their own family.

Their definition of members of their own family is a very wide one, extending to sisters and cousins and aunts, including daughters-in-law, lodgers, etc., etc. We cannot accept their definitions, knowing in many cases that the relationship is vague, that they do not reside in the same house even if closely related, and that they are constantly employed at least two days per week, and that the Laundry is distinctly carried on for gain, and is the principal means of livelihood.

The intention is, of course, to evade the Act with its regulations and supervision, and in fear of stoppage of work in cases of infectious disease. The difficulty of dealing with this type is great, and though some have been notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories for the District, no action has been taken, evidently the biased statement of the interested person being considered of more value than that of the unbiased local officials, with their varied means of acquiring accurate information.

For a small town this number of laundries may seem large, but we have to take into consideration the great influx of work, caused by the periodical visits and lengthened stay of the Fleet, and these small laundries are perpetual sources of danger for infectious and contagious disease. The remaining workshops do not call for any particular mention.

HOME WORKERS.

The Home-work order of May 23rd, 1907, requires that when work of certain kinds is given out to a workman or a contractor to be done outside the factory or workshop, a list of all such persons to whom work is sent out (whether such home-workers are employed wholly or partially) shall be kept, and that a copy of the list shall be sent to the Local Authority not later than February 1st and August 1st in each year.

The plan has been adopted of forwarding a list to each likely employer of such, immediately before the dates of delivery, with the request that it should be filled in and returned. A

considerable amount of trouble is still experienced in obtaining the list of out-workers, in eighteen cases further written application was made before the lists were received.

Sixty lists have been received from thirty-one employers, of the employment of 154 home-workers, being approximately double the number of individual workers employed, the actual number of home-workers on the lists, allowing for duplications, being 71.

Six lists of home-workers' names and addresses were forwarded to other Councils.

Fifty-seven inspection visits were made to home-workers' premises, the conditions found being fairly satisfactory. In most cases a separate room is entirely devoted to the worker; in some cases work is carried on in the living room, and in one case only the bedroom served as workroom.

A case of infectious disease was notified on an outworker's premises, an order made under Sect. 110, and measures promptly taken to prevent the spread of infection.

Two notices to cleanse and purify premises were served on outworkers. One has been remedied, the second in default, and for other reasons has had a closing order made on the house.

One notice served on owner of insanitary premises, has been remedied.

There has been no overcrowding, and on the whole the conditions under which the work is carried out are good and satisfactory.

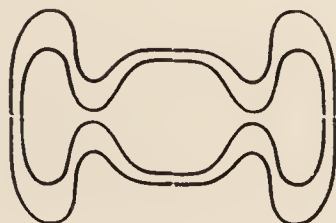


TABLE I.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1910 and previous Years.

Name of District—Borough of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births		Total Deaths Registered in the District.					Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-resid'ts registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Net Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
		Number	Rate.*	Under 1 Year of Age.			At all Ages.					Number.	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate per 1000 Births registered.	6	Number.	Rate.*					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1900	19,680	483	24.5	41	84.8	287	14.5	42	...	...	..	...
1901	19,897	518	26.0	59	113.8	303	15.2	41	...	...	...	...
1902	20,133	480	23.8	41	85.4	269	13.3	38	12	6	263	13.0	
1903	20,336	507	24.9	67	132.1	312	15.3	52	25	5	292	14.3	
1904	20,560	496	24.1	54	106.8	307	14.9	65	26	2	283	13.7	
1905	20,788	548	26.3	55	109.3	335	16.1	51	24	5	316	15.2	
1906	23,300	511	21.9	53	103.7	292	12.5	45	23	10	279	12.0	
1907	23,300	508	21.8	53	104.3	311	13.3	56	19	7	299	12.8	
1908	23,600	537	22.7	50	93	309	13	62	19	13	303	12.8	
1909	23,000	469	20.4	37	78.8	304	13.2	63	27	24	301	13	
Averages for years 1900-1909	21,459	505	23.6	51	100.2	303	14.1	51.5	22	9	292	13.3	
1910	23,000	434	18.8	24	55.3	302	13	52	23	5	284	12.3	

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres { 1305½ acres
(exclusive of area covered by water).

Total population at all ages... 19,843
Number of inhabited houses ... 3,881
Average number of persons per house ... 5.1

At Census of 1901.

I. Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	II. Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.	III. Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.
Union Workhouse Princess Christian Hospital Royal Hospital Eye Infirmary	Borough Isolation Hospital, Chickerell County Asylum, Dorchester	St. Peter's Hospital, Covent Garden, City of Westminster.

Is the Union Workhouse within the District? Yes.

TABLE II.—Vital Statistics of Separate Localities in 1910 and previous Years.

Name of District—Borough of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis.

Names of Localities.		1.—Weymouth.				2.—Melcombe Regis.			
Year		Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.
		<i>a.</i>	<i>b.</i>	<i>c.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>a.</i>	<i>b.</i>	<i>c.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1900	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1901	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1902	...	10,177	...	140	...	9,956	...	123	.
1903	...	10,372	311	167	44	9,964	196	125	23
1904	...	10,486	319	145	26	10,074	177	138	27
1905	...	10,626	358	178	48	10,162	190	138	7
1906	...	11,800	328	150	31	11,500	183	129	22
1907	...	11,800	310	168	33	11,500	198	131	20
1908	...	11,795	330	157	27	11,805	207	146	23
1909	...	11,750	292	169	23	11,250	177	132	14
Averages of years 1900 to 1909		11,100	321	159	33	10,776	190	132	19
1910	...	11,500	280	137	13	11,500	154	147	11

TABLE III.—Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1910.

Name of District—Borough of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in Whole District.							Total Cases notified in each Locality.		Number of Cases removed to Hospital from each Locality.		Total cases removed to Hospit'l
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						1	2	1	2	
		Un-der 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 & up-ward.	Wey-mouth.	Mel-combe Regis.	Wey-mouth.	Mel-combe Regis.	
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria includ'g Membranous croup	27	...	13	14	..	...	...	14	13	11	13	24
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	4	...	3	...	1	...	...	...	4	...	3	3
Typhus Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever ...	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	1	1	...	1*
Relapsing Fever...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever...	1	...	...	..	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	1†
Plague ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis ...	9	...	...	...	1	8	...	8	1	...	...	...
Totals ...	43		16	15	3	9	...	23	20	12	17	29

* Military Hospital. † Workhouse Infirmary.

Isolation Hospital, Name and Situation—Borough Isolation Hospital, Chickerell, Near Weymouth

Total available beds—48.

Number of Diseases that can be concurrently treated—4.

TABLE IV.—Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1910.

Causes of Death.	Deaths at the subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.							Deaths at all Ages of 'Residents' belonging to Localities, whether occurring in or beyond the District.		Total Deaths whether of 'Residents' or 'Non-residents' in Public Institutions in the District.
	All Ages.	Under 1 Year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards	Weymouth	Melcombe Regis.	
Small-pox	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...
Measles	3	1	1	1	...	...	..	2	1	...
Scarlet Fever	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Whooping-cough...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Diphtheria including Membranous croup	8	...	6	2	...	...	...	5	3	...
Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever { Typhus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other continued	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Epidemic influenza	4	...	...	...	...	1	3	1	3	...
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...
Gastritis	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
Puerperal fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	13	...	...	...	2	10	1	6	7	...
Other tuberculous diseases	13	1	2	2	3	5	...	6	7	4
Cancer, malignant disease	31	...	...	...	...	15	16	17	14	2
Bronchitis...	18	4	1	...	...	5	8	13	5	6
Pneumonia	17	1	3	...	1	8	4	9	8	3
Pleurisy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other diseases of Respiratory Organs...	4	...	...	...	...	2	2	2	2	...
Alcoholism	4	...	...	...	...	4	...	1	3	...
Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Venereal diseases...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature birth	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	1
Diseases and accidents of parturition	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	8
Heart diseases	32	...	1	...	1	8	22	14	18	2
Accidents	7	...	...	...	1	6	...	...	7	...
Suicides	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...
All other causes	116	9	4	5	5	22	71	53	63	28
All causes	284	24	21	19	13	88	128	137	147	57

TABLE V.—Infantile Mortality during the Year 1910.—Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total under 1 month.	1—2 months	2—3 months	3—4 months	4—5 months	5—6 months	6—7 months	7—8 months	8—9 months	9—10 months	10—11 months	11—12 months	Total Deaths under 1 Year
All causes	<div>Certified</div> <div>Uncertified</div>	6	2	2	..	10	5	3	..	2	1	..	..	..	1	2	..	24
I. Common Infectious Diseases	<div>Small-pox</div> <div>Chicken-pox</div> <div>Measles</div> <div>Scarlet fever</div> <div>Diphtheria : Croup</div> <div>Whooping cough</div>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
II. Diarrhoeal Diseases	<div>Diarrhoea, all forms</div> <div>Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis</div> <div>Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh</div>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
III. Wasting Diseases	<div>Premature Birth</div> <div>Congenital defects</div> <div>Injury at birth...</div> <div>Starvation</div> <div>Atrophy, debility, marasmus</div>	3	..	..	..	3	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
IV. Tuberculous Diseases	<div>Tuberculous meningitis</div> <div>Tuberculous peritonitis : Tabes mesenterica</div> <div>Other tuberculous diseases</div> <div>Erysipelas</div> <div>Syphilis</div> <div>Rickets</div>	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
V. Other causes	<div>Meningitis (not tuberculous)</div> <div>Convulsions</div> <div>Bronchitis</div> <div>Laryngitis</div> <div>Pneumonia</div> <div>Suffocation, overlying</div> <div>Other causes</div>	1	1	1	..	2	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4

Population (estimated to middle of 1910), 23,000.

Births in the year : Legitimate 418 ; illegitimate 16.

Deaths in the year of Legitimate Infants, 23 ; Illegitimate Infants, 1.

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 284.

TABLE Va.—Infantile Mortality during the Year 1910.—Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total under 1 month.	1—2 months	2—3 months	3—4 months	4—5 months	5—6 months	6—7 months	7—8 months	8—9 months	9—10 months	10—11 months	11—12 months	Total Deaths under 1 Year
All causes	Certified	3	..	2	..	5	3	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	13
	Uncertified	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
I. Common Infectious Diseases	Small-pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Chicken-pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
	Scarlet fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
II. Diarrhoeal Diseases	Diphtheria: Croup	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Whooping cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Diarrhoea, all forms	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
III. Wasting Diseases	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Premature Birth	3	..	..	..	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
	Congenital defects	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Injury at birth...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
IV. Tuberculous Diseases	Starvation	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	Atrophy, debility, marasmus...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Tuberculous meningitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Tuberculous peritonitis: Tabes mesenterica	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
V. Other causes	Other tuberculous diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Syphilis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Rickets	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Meningitis (not tuberculous)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Convulsions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Bronchitis	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
	Laryngitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other causes	Pneumonia	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	Suffocation, overlying	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Other causes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

District (or sub-division) of Weymouth.

Population (estimated to middle of 1910), 11,500.

Births in the year: Legitimate 269; illegitimate 11.

Deaths in the year of Legitimate Infants, 13; Illegitimate Infants, 0.

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 137.

Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces, and Homework.

1.—Inspection.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices.	Prosecutions
Factories	23		...
(Including Factory Laundries			
Workshops	124	2	...
(Including Workshop Laundries)			
Workplaces	76		...
(Other than Outworkers' premises			
included in Part 3 of this Report)			
Total	223	2	...

2.—Defects Found.

Particulars	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions
	Found	Remedi- ed	Refer'ed to H.M. Inspec'r	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts--</i>				
Want of cleanliness	7	6	...	...
Want of ventilation	1	...	...	...
Overcrowding	2	1	...	...
Want of drainage of floors ... ..	...	...	...	...
Other nuisances	10	7	...	...
Sanitary { insufficient	2	...	...	...
accommodation { unsuitable or defective ... ..	...	...	...	...
{ not separate for sexes ... ..	...	...	...	...
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)... ..	...	...	...	...
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100) ... ..	...	...	...	...
Other offences (excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report)	...	...	...	...
Total	22	14	...	...

3.—Home Work.

Nature of Work	Outworkers' Lists, Section 107.										Outwork in unwholesome premises, Section 108.			Outwork in infected premises, Sections 109, 110.		
	Lists received from Employers					Prosecutions		Inspections of Outworkers' premises	In-Notices served	Prose-cutions	In-stances	Orders made (S. 110)	Prose-cutions (Sec-tions 109, 110)			
	Twice in the year		Once in the year		Address of Outworkers received from other Council's	Address of Outworkers sent to other Council's	Failing to keep or permit inspection of lists							Failing to send lists		
	Outworkers		Outworkers													
	Lists	Con-trac-tors	Work-men	trac-tors											Work-men	
Wearing apparel—	58	2	146	2	...	...	...	...	57	2	I	...	...	
(1) making, &c.			
(2) cleaning and washing			
Lace, lace curtains and nets			
Artificial flowers			
Nets, other than wire nets			
Tents			
Sacks			
Furniture and Upholstery	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fur pulling			
Feather sorting	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Umbrellas, &c.			
Carding, &c., of buttons, &c.			
Paper bags and boxes			
Basket making			
Brush making			
Racquet and tennis balls			
Stuffed Toys			
File making			
Electro-plate			
Cables and chains			
Anchor and Grapnels			
Cart Gear			
Locks, latches and keys			
Pea picking			
Total ...	58	2	150	2	...	...	6	...	57	2	I	...	...	

Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending lists: 18

4.—Other Matters.

Class.	Number
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133)	5
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5) ... ..	...
Other ... ..	...
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :—	
Certificates granted during the year ... ..	...
In use at the end of the year	I

Education (Administrative Provisions) Act 1907.

Annual Report

ON THE

Elementary Schools

OF THE

BOROUGH OF WEYMOUTH & MELCOMBE
REGIS,

FOR THE YEAR 1910.

—O—

BY

W. B. BARCLAY, L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Etc.,

Medical Officer of Health.

WEYMOUTH :
HARRY WHEELER, LTD.,
PRINTERS.

**To the
Chairman and Members of the Education Committee
of the Borough of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis.**

January, 1911.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

In accordance with the Education (A.P.) Act, 1907, I have the honour to present to you my Third Annual Report as School Medical Officer.

It may not be amiss to give here a retrospect of the events leading up to the system now in complete working order.

In 1903, my predecessor was appointed Medical Officer to the Education Committee, to carry out certain duties with regard to children attending Elementary Schools. For instance, “(1) To guard against infection spread by school attendance, (2) To ensure that children who are not physically or mentally fit for regular attendance shall not be subjected to undue pressure, to the injury of health, (3) To ensure that school premises shall be kept in good sanitary condition.”

The first and third items have been constantly carried out since that date, but the second resolved itself to a great extent, into the voluntary attendance of children suffering from minor ailments, at the Municipal Offices, for the purpose of being certified as unfit to attend school, and saving the pains and penalties incurred by being absent without reasonable excuse. This system is still in vogue, and many thousands of certificates are given yearly. The system has its drawbacks, but these I think are overshadowed by the benefits, inasmuch as the Medical Officer is kept in constant touch with the ailments of the children as they arise. The Act of 1907 increased the scope of the work of the Medical Officer, by requiring amongst other items systematic medical inspection of all children along certain well defined lines.

This systematic inspection and recording of the physical and mental conditions of every child attending the schools was commenced in June, 1908, and by the end of July, 1910, every child attending school during that period had been medically examined, with some twenty-seven exceptions.

It may be thought that, every child having been once examined, the work under the Act would now lessen. The contrary however has been the result during the latter months of the year, and for these reasons. (1) A constant succession of new children appear at each school. (2) The Board of Education have decided (Circular No. 576, Sect. 12), "under Sect. 13 of the Act that *not less than* three inspections during the school life of the child will be necessary to secure the results desired." (3) In the same circular, Sect. 10, the Board state, "the directions given in this circular as to the degree of frequency of inspection, refer only to the *minimum* medical inspection they are not intended to exclude other medical work For example the retesting of the eyesight of every child periodically, would be most valuable; an annual measurement of height and weight; the more frequent examination of particular children, especially of those suspected to be suffering from deficient nutrition or found to be defective at former inspections;"

(4) The aim of the inspection is for the amelioration and physical improvement of the child. "It is clear that to point out the presence of uncleanness, defect or disease, does not absolve an authority from the consequent duty of so applying its Statutory powers as to secure their amelioration and to prevent, as far as possible, their future recurrence or development."

(5) The enquiry beginning with the child in its class-room, extends in an ever widening circle to its whole environment. Its home relations, its employment—if any—outside school hours, evoke enquiries necessitating relations with the Sanitary Authorities, also with other authorities dealing with the moral and physical welfare of the child.

I cannot do better than summarize the annual report of the Chief Medical Officer of the Board of Education as bearing on this subject. "The object at which every one concerned in the matter aims, is the prevention and alleviation of disease, but the chief problems which confront the School Medical Service, must for a long time remain problems of administration and organization."

"Stated quite simply and broadly, the immediate problems of the School Medical Service are to ascertain in each area what children are suffering from various defects and ailments, and what is the character and degree of these ailments ; in how many of these cases the Local Education Authority can reasonably expect that, with the assistance of existing voluntary agencies, amelioration will be secured without further intervention by the Authority ! and as regards the ascertained residue to consider how the Authority can supplement or render the existing agencies more effective, or devise such measures as will stop the enrolment of child recruits, in the great army of the physically unfit, and thus diminish the burden which the maintenance of that army imposes on the nation."

Throughout the whole period since the Act came into force, it has been our constant endeavour to unremittingly and consistently carry out the spirit of it, as shown in the above extracts from the circular of the Board, and the report of their Chief Medical Officer, and whilst the inspecting and recording has proceeded, the attempt to have defects remedied has been carried on *parri passu*.

It has been inevitable, however, that the enlightenment of the public generally has not proceeded apace with those of the Authorities, and the amelioration of defects has been much slower than the detection of them, with the natural consequence that at the end of the period, when all the children had been examined, a considerable number of parents had neglected to follow the advice given them, to try and bring their children into a normal state, and a period of six weeks was allotted to re-examining every child who had certain easily remediable

defects, and had not already been noted as having had attention. At the close of the year, we may say that most of the arrears of work have been overtaken, as regards missed cases in former years, and steady and persistent pressure is kept up on certain parents, that relapses may not occur.

Your obedient Servant,

W. B. BARCLAY.



ORGANIZATION.

The Staff consists of the School Medical Officer and the School Nurse, both of whom have other duties to perform, one as M.O.H., the other as Health Visitor, but both devoting their whole time to these dual offices.

At the beginning of each school session a time table is issued to each department, stating the day an examination will be held for that department. Each department is thus automatically visited once in three weeks, though interim visits are frequent.

The instructions issued were that new admissions were to be first examined, then the about-to-leaves, and lastly general.

By the end of July every child had been examined, and the instructions then issued were to still give new admissions and about-to-leaves priority, but to revert to the first examined for a second examination, as much as possible giving priority to those who had previously shown defects. This routine still continues.

The height and weight of each child is taken by the teacher and entered, also the occupation of parents, standard, age, regularity of attendance, and their opinion of their mental ability.

With one occasional exception the Head Teacher is present during the inspection and examination. The hour chosen is 9 a.m., this interfering least with the school curriculum.

So systematised has the work become, that the minimum time is occupied. The eyesight is tested by the School Nurse in the presence of the Medical Officer. The parents of every child have a circular sent to them during the previous week, asking for information as to previous illnesses, and the date of birth, and inviting them to be present.

Defects found are notified verbally to the parents if present, and in all cases are notified by letter, stating whether it is necessary that medical advice should be sought or if the remedy is in their own hands.

The Records having been made are taken first to the office, copied into a register, then returned to the school. At the following examination three weeks after, those shewing defects

—and to whom notice has been sent to remedy—are re-examined, and if no steps have been taken, a second more peremptory notice is issued, and the same routine followed. In the case, however, of verminous cases or other urgent defect, the re-examination is made the following week by a special visit. In the interim the School Nurse will have visited the house.

PARENTS.

The Parents, as noted above, are invited to be present, and an increasing number avail themselves of this invitation. Taken as a whole the parents have welcomed the inspection of their children, and have been ready to listen to and profit by the knowledge gained thereby.

Less difficulty is now found in having defects attended to, and practically no difficulty with those where the parents have been present at the examination. Objections to the examination have been made in 27 cases, to those the clerk has written explaining the intention of the Act, and the majority of them have relinquished their objection. The chief form of objection is, that they have their own Doctor and prefer to have it done by him at home. Of course this is of no value to the School Authority, unless carried out in accordance with the record card and the schedule properly filled in. Many, in fact the greater number, raise objection from the fact that some previous child has had some defect, of uncleanness generally, called attention to. In such cases no notice is taken of the objection, and if the child is present it is examined, under the powers conferred upon the School Medical Officer by the Children's Act.

Apart from these there are a few faddists, who raise conscientious objections to everything done under Authority.

GENERAL REVIEW.

CLOTHING.

Insufficiency and bad repair are classed together and the percentage to the whole is 3·8.

In few cases can it be said that the lack of clothing is great or marked and the same holds good as to bad repair.

Included in the percentage is insufficient or improper under-clothing in the winter

It is noted that the percentage at the ages 4 to 7 are slight, and that males are as ·06 to ·008 females.

Uncleanliness has a total percentage of 3·2 ; again males are greater ·03 to females ·02.

Footgear. Insufficeint and bad repair is noted as 4·3 per cent. Few cases indeed have appeared without footgear. The principal defect has been the appearing with obviously second-hand boots, with glace kid uppers and thin soles, principally composed of cardboard with a thin coating of leather. In this case also boys have a percentage of ·06 to girls ·02.

So slight have been the defects found, that these have been remedied through the Police Aid Society, who upon a recommendation from the teacher, as to a case being necessitous, provide the needed clothing and footgear. This voluntary society, inaugurated by the Chief Constable, has been of inestimable benefit.

NUTRITION.

This is an arbitrary standard and therefore much depends on the personal views of the examiner.

As 61·6 per cent. are noted as subnormal, the normal naturally is classed high. Whilst this high percentage is given as being below the normal, only nine per cent. are noted as really

bad, that is in Class III. The percentage in males is slightly greater than in females, 63 and 59 % respectively. It is difficult to attribute a cause for this deficient nutrition. So far as one can judge after five years experience, there are probably a combination of causes.

(1) This is an Urban Area, it is an ancient Town and as reported in my Sanitary Report the housing conditions amongst the class attending the Elementary Schools, is far from satisfactory ; overcrowding does exist. There is in the older parts of the Town, a lack of air space round the houses. This has a serious effect upon the physical development of the child, and probably also accounts to some extent for the inherent lack of vitality, due to pre-natal causes.

(2) Improper feeding, has been in a previous Report mentioned as one cause of defective teeth, and there is no doubt has also its effect upon nutrition.

From all enquiries made, Insufficient Food is rare in this District, if not altogether absent.

(3) Another cause is the late hours kept by children, which is so general in this Borough. In the elder children, to these late hours has to be added,

(4) Overwork. In an interim report made in 1908, I called attention to the large number of children, who are employed before and after school hours, in work which in their immature state was detrimental to their physical development.

HEIGHT AND WEIGHT.

As in previous years I give the comparative table of Height and Weights of the Anthropometric Committee's Report and of Weymouth. In the latter case some slight allowance must be deducted for measurement with boots on, as I find it is not general in the schools here to remove the boots.

Age last Birth-day.	MALES.				FEMALES.			
	Height in centimetres.		Weight in kilogrammes.		Height in centimetres.		Weight in kilogrammes.	
	Great Britain.	Weymouth.	Great Britain.	Weymouth.	Great Britain.	Weymouth.	Great Britain.	Weymouth.
5	101·6	105·	18·14	18·0	99·0	104·	17·69	17·9
6	109·2	111·	20·19	19·0	106·6	110·	18·94	19·6
7	116·8	120·7	22·57	23·	111·7	118·7	21·55	21·8
8	119·4	118·7	24·95	22·7	111·8	119·3	23·59	22·2
9	126·4	127·7	27·44	25·5	123·8	129·	25·18	25·1
10	131·4	130·2	30·62	27·5	129·5	134·7	28·12	28·8
11	135·9	135·7	32·66	31·2	134·6	140·7	30·85	32·6
12	139·7	144·2	34·81	34·8	141·0	146·	34·70	36·3
13	144·8	147·2	37·42	38·8	146·7	153·6	39·46	41·7
14	150·5	153·	41·73	43·5	151·8	157·	43·89	46·5

Of the 1000 children examined this year the same remark applies as in previous years : that generally speaking the heights are greater than those of the country generally, and the weight less in males and greater in females. There are some few discrepancies this year, at some ages, but they are small.

CLEANLINESS.

Body. Dirty children are extremely rare at the systematic inspection, as, being aware of the examination, they are prepared accordingly. Only 6·3 of the whole are classed as unclean, and this includes where the bodies are not properly washed. In only six cases, that is ·6 per cent., were the conditions really bad, the bodies being dirty and verminous.

The continual visits paid to the schools, however, and the careful supervision of the teachers, by which, apart from the special examination day, suspected cases are brought before me, increase the record somewhat, and in addition to the above I have to add 26 cases throughout the year found to have vermin on the body, 16 with bodies, etc., unwashed, and 30 with dirty clothing.

Head. Much of the time for medical inspection has been employed in the endeavour to keep down this filthy condition, and though not yet satisfactory, considerable progress has been made.

There is no doubt that the continual inspection, the constant visits of the Nurse to bad and neglected cases, and the never leaving a case alone until it is perfect, are having their effect.

“Though the mills of God grind slowly, yet they grind exceeding small. Though with patience He stands waiting, with exactness grinds He all.”

This quotation illustrates our action. Unlimited patience, unflagging perseverance, kindly advice and instruction to parents, the stimulating of a spirit of emulation amongst the children themselves, these are slowly bringing about a much better condition of affairs.

Every endeavour is made by Teachers, Nurse and Medical Inspector, to have remediable measures carried out by the parents.

We are long-suffering so long as live vermin are not seen, but when our patience becomes interpreted as weakness, we strike and strike boldly and firmly.

Ninety-six or 9·6 per cent. were found with unclean heads at the systematic examination. Of this number 7 or ·7 per cent. were cases where live vermin were seen. The remainder had nits to some extent. NO HEAD IS CLASSED AS CLEAN IF NITS ARE PRESENT. To these numbers have to be added 163 detected or brought forward at other times, and upon whom notices have been served.

Two hundred and fifty-six notices regarding this condition were sent out during the year. In fifty-six cases a second more peremptory notice was required.

Thirty cleansing orders under the Children's Act were issued by the Education Committee.

In nine cases the children were compulsorily cleansed by the Local Authority, that is, were taken from the school and had their heads cleansed by the orders of the School Medical Officer, and under the personal supervision of the School Nurse. In each of the cases, so bad were the heads, that no remedy was available except cutting the hair short, and this was done; the

heads afterwards being thoroughly shampooed. In eight cases where cleansing orders had been issued either during the year or the previous year, were relapses found.

Five parents were prosecuted under the Children's Act for verminous conditions, and convicted.

Until the closing of the schools for the summer holidays we had every reason to feel satisfied with the progress made and all concerned were congratulating themselves on the marked improvement manifest. The prosecutions had had an excellent effect.

When the schools re-opened in September, unfortunately a different condition of affairs was speedily brought to our notice, more especially in St. John's Girls' School, a school hitherto comparatively free from this obnoxious complaint. The source was easily traced to a family formerly attending a school outside the Borough. From the defective cloak room accommodation, the classes in which these children respectively were, became speedily affected, so much so, that, for the few remaining months of the year, the Medical Staff was to a great extent occupied by the disgusting occupation of continually examining heads for vermin. At the close of the year the conditions were, with about one exception, excellent.

The same occurred at Cromwell Road Girls' School, where the Head Mistresses' suspicions were aroused by a complaint received. It was found necessary here to take every girl in two classes for individual examination, and the results were dire and disheartening.

It seems with certain families well known to us that the moment the supervision exercised in school ceases by the advent of the holidays, that they relapse, and neglect is the order of the day with them, and classes become affected within a day or two of the school re-opening. It was the knowledge that this had occurred in previous years that led us to adopt the method of devoting the first few weeks after the re-opening of the schools to dealing with defects in the children alone, and leaving the systematic inspection alone during those weeks.

For verminous conditions of head and body and uncleanness generally, the School Nurse has paid 332 visits to parents at their own homes, for the purposes of instruction and advice.

TEETH.

In 66% were the Teeth decayed to a moderate extent. In six per cent. more than half the teeth were defective. I find that the percentage of decayed teeth varies little at the different age periods. The effect of decayed teeth, and their subsequent loss, on the health of the child is a very serious one.

It interferes greatly with the nutrition of the child, toothache, with the pain and consequent loss of sleep, is very prevalent, and has an injurious effect. A school week never passes without my having to excuse a child or two from attendance at school, suffering either from toothache or from inflammation of the gum, or abscess.

The effect of the loss of teeth on the digestion from insufficient mastication, is only too well known.

The great predisposing cause in the early decay of teeth, is the character of the food generally eaten. Too much soft food, more especially the craze for white bread, and the pernicious habit of giving children sweets, are much to be blamed.

If the physical improvement of the child is to be benefited, the condition of the teeth must be one of the foremost questions. It seems useless, in the great majority of cases, to explain this to the parents. When parents are present at the examination, advice is always given as to the teeth, but it is not always that I find it acted upon.

Whether the expense is the deterring factor alone or not I am unable to state, but when advice has been repeatedly urged in some cases, we find that extraction is the remedy they seek, because it can be had for nothing under certain circumstances, or for a very moderate sum, from unqualified dental practitioners.

I urged last year the advisability of considering the establishment of a Dental Clinic, by the Education Committee, if the Board of Education give consent. I again urge that the subject at least should be considered, and a technical adviser consulted as to the cost, etc.

Cleanliness of the Teeth. In 62% oral sepsis was absent. Though the use of the tooth brush is taught in the school, it is not generally used at home.

NOSE AND THROAT.

Enlarged Tonsils. A large number of children have some enlargement of the Tonsils, to the extent this year of close on 33%.

Of the total number of children 3·2% have such marked enlargements as to require the special attention of the parents being called to their condition. There has been a more marked tendency for those parents to seek further medical advice, and to have the tonsils removed, when so advised.

Adenoids. While Adenoids have been present to the extent of 11%, in only two cases (·2%) have these been so marked as to call for operative measures being advised.

Mouth Breathing which has a detrimental effect, when confirmed, upon the health of the child, is generally associated with the presence of Adenoids, was found present in about 5%.

EARS.

Defective hearing to a slight extent, not sufficient to unduly interfere with the education of the child, was found in ·6 %, and discharges or blocking with wax in ·8 %. Some few of the cases of defective hearing were due to undue accumulation of wax and was easily remedied.

EYES.

In one child only was an affection of the conjunctiva found, whilst ·7 % had an affection of the eyelids.

In nearly all these cases of Ciliary Blepharitis, the complaint was of a mild type, and on treatment being urged upon the parents, was soon cured.

Squint. 2·2% were affected. In most of the cases it was accompanied by defective Vision, and was to a considerable extent removed when suitable glasses were provided and worn.

VISION.

The Eyesight of children under six years of age is not tested.

In 104 children, or 16·6 % of those tested, a defect from the normal vision was found. In a considerable number of these the defect was only $\frac{5}{9}$ and in others one eye only was affected. Vision with both eyes being normal. In others the defect has been remedied and glasses worn before examination.

In all, it was only necessary to serve notice to remedy the defect in 49, that is less than half the number. Of this number 36 have had the defect remedied, and glasses are worn in each case. Three left school having reached the age limit, and ten are not yet remedied.

In 1909 the Education Committee, with consent of the Board of Education, made arrangements for necessitous cases to be provided with Spectacles at the public expense, and in such cases where the parents were considered able to give some portion of the cost or the whole, to have such refunded by small weekly or monthly payments.

It was considered, and rightly, that while medical advice could be had gratuitously "by fit and proper objects of charity," that the provision of glasses was in some cases utterly beyond the means of poor people, who had barely the means of providing a home and food and raiment for their family. It was also considered, that if a contract was made, the price to all, poor and semi-poor alike, would be lessened.

Under this arrangement twelve orders were given during the year and ten were charged to the Committee. Of this number

eight had the money advanced, to be repaid by small instalments, which in four cases has not been done entirely.

Fourteen cases in which nothing had been done in 1909, have now been remedied.

Even with this knowledge of the bounty of the Committee, and the readiness of everyone concerned to assist, and in spite of our repeated attempts, seconded by the head teachers, to bring parents to reason, a certain number declined to even have the necessary skilled advice procurable at the Eye Infirmary.

Early in the year, I reported five of the worst of the offenders (affecting six children) to the Committee, with the suggestion that proceedings might be taken against them under the Children's Act. The Committee sanctioned this course, and the five parents were brought before the Magistrates. In each case a conviction was secured, though a penalty was not pressed for, being the first cases of the sort ever brought before the Magistrates. The parents afterwards complied with the Notices.

I think some recognition is due the staff of the Eye Infirmary for the increased work that is thrown upon them through the operation of the Act. I think every case referred for medical advice, gravitates to that Institution, and there to my knowledge receives every care and consideration. No subscription is directly made by the Committee or the Corporation, though indirectly they are the means of considerable funds being handed each year to the various Hospitals.

MENTAL CONDITION.

This is intended for an expression of opinion of the Teacher, as to whether the individual child may be considered (1) bright and intelligent, (2) average, (3) dull, and (4) bordering on the mentally defective. The Mentally Defective will come under Special Examination.

The standard will vary in the different schools, and it is noticeable that some schools have a rather higher average under No. 1 than others. The teacher is probably in these cases more optimistic.

61·6 are classed as being below the standard of bright and intelligent, or Class I. : of the total number, however, 40% are placed in Class II., or average ; 20% are considered dull, Class III. ; whilst 1·6% are barely capable of receiving instruction.

Mentally defectives have been absent.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.

These have been entirely Scabies and Ringworm. Whilst only seven cases of these were detected during the actual Inspection, nineteen others were brought under our notice specially. These were respectively Ringworm, body or head, ten, affecting eight families, and Scabies, sixteen, affecting fourteen families. There is no doubt as regards the latter disease Scabies, that its presence in the Schools coincides with the periodical visits of the Fleet. With rare exceptions, we find that the houses affected have been occupied by families connected with the Fleet.

Ringworm, though not now so prevalent as formerly, is to some extent spread by the defective cloak-room accommodation.

The remaining defects call for little comment, except to remark upon the exceedingly few cases of Tuberculosis and Rickets that come under notice. Deformities are even more rare.

315 Visits have been paid to the Schools by the School Medical Officer.

256 Notices have been sent regarding all conditions of the children.

56 Second Notices have been required in addition.

1,556 Certificates have been issued for minor complaints, excusing attendance at School. No record of the actual number examined for this latter purpose has been kept.

HYGIENIC CONDITION OF SCHOOLS.

A full sanitary report upon each department and school was made in 1908, and a shorter summary in 1909, pointing out the alterations that had taken place during the year.

During the past year improvements have been few and much still remains to be done before the schools can be considered satisfactory in every respect. With the exception of St. Mary's Boys' School, the sanitary accommodation, which is entirely the water closet system, is sufficient, and the underground drains are good and well ventilated.

It would be an improvement if in such schools as still retain automatic flushing for the W.C's., dispensed with this, and provided each closet with its own flushing cistern. It would be much more satisfactory from an educational as well as a sanitary point of view, and probably would result in a saving in the water bill, and still be effective.

Ventilation. Improvements in ventilation in St. John's, St. Mary's, and Holy Trinity Schools is still necessary. I still find that certain rooms in Cromwell Road School—formerly reported—are insufficiently ventilated, and recommend the provision of direct extractors for these rooms.

HEATING.

Improvement in heating in St. Mary's, St. Paul's, and Holy Trinity Schools is still required. At Cromwell Road School, while the hot water heating is sufficient for ordinary weather, there is a lack in very cold weather, the temperature being as low throughout as 45°. This I think could be remedied by some little thought on the caretaker's part, by increasing his fire in cold weather and decreasing in warmer. This I have suggested to him.

The whole subject of the heating of the schools is one that requires a good deal of further consideration, the open fire-place and stove not being altogether satisfactory, and far from economical.

LIGHTING.

Lighting is still insufficient in parts of St. John's, St. Mary's and Holy Trinity Boys'.

Rearrangement of the desks with regard to lighting, has been carried out wherever possible, but in St. John's Boys', St. Mary's and Holy Trinity Boys', it has been found impossible under present circumstances, with long desks, etc., to carry out the best schemes.

Equipment. In St. John's, St. Mary's, Holy Trinity and St. Paul's, the ancient type of long or continuous desks are still general. It is really a matter of urgency, from every point of view, that the replacement of this old type of desk, with a modern and hygienic type, should be more rapid. If a certain number in each school were scrapped each year, the expense would not be a serious item. There is a lack of desks at Cromwell Road Infants.

Cloakroom Accommodation. In other parts of my Report, I have pointed out the diseases that have been conveyed by means of the deficiencies in Cloakroom Accommodation.

St. John's Infants is barely worth the name, St. Mary's Girls' and Infants' are no better, Holy Trinity Girls' and Infants' are insufficient for the numbers present. In all these apart from the paucity of accommodation, the pegs are too close together, and are a direct cause of the spread of infectious and contagious disorders.

In only two departments, St. John's Boys' and St. Augustine's are the pegs numbered. In the latter a list is hung up shewing the number allotted to each child, and this they must keep to. I would strongly urge that in such schools as Cromwell Road and others where the cloak room accommodation is sufficient, that the system of numbering each peg and allotting one to each child should be carried out.

Lavatory accommodation can only be stated to be sufficient in St. John's Girls', St. Augustine's, St. Paul's, Cromwell Road, and Holy Trinity Girls'. In the other departments it is sadly defective.

Cleansing. Little improvement in this is manifest. Cromwell Road School throughout, is a model of what can be done, and I have been unable to, at any time, find fault with it.

St. Augustine's has considerably improved, though I had occasion to call attention to neglect at one time. The other schools require a radical change in the cleansing staff, with a possible query for Holy Trinity.

An old, dusty and insanitary Curtain—a perfect forcing bed should infectious disease occur—previously condemned, ought to be at once removed from St. Paul's School and not replaced in the form of a curtain.

SCHOOL CLOSURE.

For the better prevention of an outbreak of measles, the Sanitary Authority, acting with the consent and approval of the School Medical Officer, closed St. Mary's Infant School from October 31st to November 7th, and from November 8th to the 21st, and again from November 22nd for a period of 14 days or such further period as might be desirable.

On December 2nd, the Sanitary Authority again with the concurrence of the School Medical Officer, closed the whole of the Infant Schools in the Borough, with the exception of St. Augustine's mixed school, until January 2nd, 1911, for the better prevention of measles.

PHYSICAL EXERCISES.

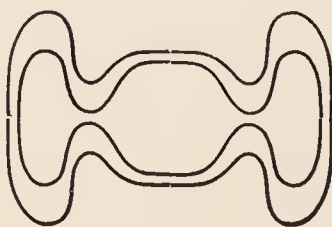
These are carried on at all the schools, and as opportunity occurs note is taken of the methods of carrying these out, and the results. A further development of these, in the form of providing a gymnasium, and special instructor, at a central spot, is most desirable, as tending to improve the physique of the children, which is so noticeably defective, as pointed out in previous pages. The provision of Baths would also tend to in-

culcate cleanliness in the children. We are far behind in this matter, as, apart from sea bathing during a few of the summer months, there is no provision for baths for either children or adults.

In previous Reports, I have urged that, at any rate until financial considerations allow of the erection of Public Baths, provision might be made whereby girls had the same opportunity as boys of enjoying (without cost), the benefits of sea bathing.

Classes ought to be taken systematically and regularly for this purpose.

A Cookery Room has been opened during the year, and an Instructor provided. This calls for no special mention in this Report.



STATISTICS OF AGE, HEIGHT, WEIGHT AND DEFECTS.

SCHOOL.	DEPT.	Numbers Examined		Average Age	Height		Weight		Clothing			Unvaccinated	Nutrition	Cleanliness		Teeth		Nose and Throat						Ears		Eyes					Mental Condition	Contagious Disease	Deformity	Rickets	Tuberculosis	Lymph Glands	Heart	Lungs	Nervous System	Skin	Other Diseases or Defects	Mentally Defective	Exceptional Cases																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
					Eng.	Centi-metres	Eng.	Kilo-grams	Sufficiency	Cleanliness	Footgear			Body	Head	Condition	Cleanliness	Tonsils	Adenoids	Glands	Nasal Discharge	Mouth Breathing	Speech and Articulation	Hearing	Disease or Discharge	Conjunctivitis	Lids	Squint	Other Defects	Vision																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
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Borough of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis.



Annual Report

AND

RESULTS OF THE OBSERVATIONS

MADE

DURING THE YEAR 1910,

AT THE

METEOROLOGICAL STATION, WESTHAM.

LATITUDE, $50^{\circ} 36' 20''$ N. LONGITUDE, $2^{\circ} 26' 50''$ W.

HEIGHT ABOVE SEA LEVEL—22 FEET.

I. J. BROWN, F.R.Met.Soc.,
Honorary Borough Meteorologist.

WEYMOUTH :
HARRY WHEELER, LTD.,
PRINTERS.

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**To the
Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors
of the Borough of Weymouth and
Melcombe Regis.**



GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting to you my Thirteenth Annual Report of the Meteorological Department of the Borough of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis for the year 1910, and the principal results of the Observations during that year. The Instruments are all in good working order, the readings being very carefully taken at 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. by Mr. J. H. Bolam.

I have this year added to my report a table of the Rainfall in the district, and I am indebted to the Rev. Sealy Poole, Mr. J. C. P. White, and Mr. Stevenson Henshaw for kindly supplying me with the returns for Chickerell, Abbotsbury, Portland and Upwey. I have had during the year a number of enquiries as to the sea temperature. If the Council could arrange for the temperature of the sea to be taken daily at the Pier Head, and a record of such temperature being displayed at the Pavilion or the Pier House, it would be of great interest to our visitors, especially to those who indulge in sea bathing.

The Charts recording the *Bright Sunshine* are sent each month to the Director of the Meteorological Office to be verified, and on their return are again despatched to Mr. W. Marriott, of the Royal Meteorological Society, who re-verifies and files them.

Throughout the year daily weather telegrams are sent to *The Daily Telegraph*, *Morning Leader*, Meteorological Office, and the Weather Bureau, the two latter redistribute these reports to other daily papers. Weekly returns are sent to all the Local Papers, and full monthly reports to the Meteorological Office, Royal Meteorological Society, etc.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

I. J. BROWN.

2 St. Thomas Street,
Weymouth,
February, 1911.

REMARKS.

The past year has been exceptionally dull and wet, the amount of Bright Sunshine being considerably below the average—by 107·6 hours. The Mean Temperature, Rainfall, and Rainy Days exceeded the average, the former by 0·6° and the two latter by 3·69in. and 35 days. Only on ten days throughout the year did the thermometer register at or below freezing point, and on seventy days the rainfall recorded was 0·05in or less.

January.—Very changeable and showery. Sunshine, mean temperature, and rainfall were all above the average, the former by 8·5 hours, and the two latter by 0·3° and 0·94in. Atmospheric pressure was very disturbed, especially at the close of the month, the reading of the barometer on the 24th being as low as 28·864in. West gales on the 9th, 11th, 16th, and 27th. N.W. gales the 22nd and 23rd, snow the 25th, thunder storm the 28th. Prevailing wind—West.

February.—A wild and stormy month. From the 14th to the 19th a succession of cyclones burst over this district, each one deeper than its predecessor. The rainfall, sunshine and mean temperature were all above the average, the former by 1·92in., and the two latter by 22 hours and 2·7°. The principal amount of rainfall occurred during the night. West gales 6th, 14th to 19th, 23rd and 25th, severe on the 17th and 19th, thunderstorms the 20th and 22nd. Prevailing wind—West.

March.—A fine, dry and sunny month, the sunshine and mean temperature being very considerably above the average. Rain fell on eight days only ; a slight fall of snow on the morning of the 18th. Atmospheric pressure was very even ; range of pressure 0·700in. Prevailing wind—Easterly.

April.—A fairly fine but somewhat dull month. Sunshine and rainfall were both below the average, the former by 14 hrs., and the latter by 0·53in. Atmospheric pressure was very unsteady ; range of pressure 1·351in. West gale on the 23rd ; fogs the 6th and 18th.

May.—Variable, the days being generally fine and the nights unsettled. The mean temperature was above, and the sunshine and rainfall below, the average. Atmospheric pressure was very disturbed ; range of pressure 0·812in. N.W. and W. gales on the 5th, 6th, and 31st ; fogs the 18th, 19th, and 20th ; thunderstorms the 12th and 22nd.

June.—From the 1st to 4th, 11th to 22nd, and 28th to 30th was very fine, the remainder of the month being unsettled. The mean temperature and rainfall was above, and the sunshine below the average. Atmospheric pressure was very irregular. Range of pressure 0·809in. Thunder storms on the 7th and 8th ; fogs the 18th and 20th. Prevailing wind—West.

July.—A fine spell of weather set in from the 6th to 14th, the remainder of the month being very changeable and showery. The mean temperature and sunshine were considerably below the average, the former by 1·6° and the latter by 68·4 hours. Atmospheric pressure was very unsteady ; range of pressure 0·571in. Thunderstorm on the 16th ; N.W. gale the 24th. Prevailing winds W. to N.W.

August.—A dull and showery month. The principal amount of rain fell during the nights and early mornings, the majority of the days being fine. The sunshine, as in the past

two months, was considerably below the average. Atmospheric pressure was very even up to the 27th ; range of pressure 0·750 in. Thunderstorm on the 14th. Prevailing wind—West.

September.—A brilliantly fine month—the finest September recorded since observations have been taken at Weymouth. There was only three days on which rain fell, and the total amount recorded was but 0·15in. Atmospheric pressure was very high and steady, only on one day did the mercury fall below 30·000in. Prevailing winds—North to East.

October.—A mild and cloudy month. The sunshine was considerably below, and the mean temperature above, the average, the former by 35·9 hours, and the latter by 2·2°. Atmospheric pressure was very irregular ; range of pressure 0·860 in. Thunderstorm on the 1st, West gales the 2nd and 31st, N.E. gale the 13th. Prevailing Wind—East.

November.—A cold but sunny month. The mean temperature was 3·1° below, and the sunshine 18·2 hours above, the average. The rainfall, which took place principally during the nights, was nearly an inch above the usual amount. N.W. gale on the 1st, West gale the 10th and 11th, S.E. gale the 27th. Atmospheric pressure was very disturbed ; range of pressure 1·242in. Prevailing winds—Northerly.

December.—An exceptionally wet and unsettled month. The rainfall was 2·64in. and the rainy days nine above the average. Atmospheric pressure was very disturbed throughout, on the 9th and 10th the readings of the barometer being as low as 28·98 and 28·80. S.E. and South gales on the 7th and 13th, S.W. and West gales the 14th and 16th, N.W. gale the 23rd. The West gale of the 16th was very severe, with an extraordinary high tide. Prevailing winds—Northerly.

THE BAROMETER—9 a.m.
Corrected for Temperature and Altitude.

1910.	Mean.	Difference from the Average.	Highest.	Date.	Lowest.	Date.
January ...	Inches. 29.909	Inches. — .179	Inches. 30.587	7	Inches. 28.864	24
February ...	29.644	— .254	30.300	10	29.088	19
March ...	30.146	+ .189	30.500	24	29.800	10
April ...	29.868	— .082	30.412	1	29.161	13
May ...	29.894	— .094	30.338	1	29.526	13
June ...	29.907	— .130	30.347	15	29.538	25
July ...	29.901	— .187	30.131	5	29.560	25
August ...	29.902	— .136	30.260	31	29.510	29
September ...	30.197	+ .116	30.416	22	29.872	29
October ...	29.961	+ .004	30.490	4	29.630	20
November ...	29.632	— .347	30.148	19	28.906	7
December ...	29.658	— .339	30.418	31	28.807	10
Year ...	29.885	— .119	30.587	Jan. 7	28.807	Dec. 10

TEMPERATURE.

1910.	9 a.m. <i>mean</i>	Max. <i>mean</i>	Min. <i>mean</i>	Range <i>mean</i>	Max. and Min. <i>mean</i>	Differ- ence from the Average	Highest	Date.	Lowest	Date	Relative Humidity
January	° 41.5	° 46.4	° 37.3	° 9.1	° 41.8	° +0.3	° 53.3	3	° 20.3	27	% 87
February	... 44.6	... 48.6	... 40.4	... 8.2	... 44.5	... +2.7	... 53.9	17	... 34.0	5	84
March	... 45.1	... 51.0	... 39.9	... 11.1	... 45.4	... +2.2	... 57.7	21	... 30.1	14	78
April	... 48.1	... 53.6	... 41.3	... 12.3	... 47.4	... —	... 59.1	22	... 31.3	1	79
May	... 55.5	... 61.8	... 47.1	... 14.7	... 54.4	... +1.8	... 75.2	23, 24	... 35.1	9	70
June	... 60.1	... 65.3	... 52.9	... 12.4	... 59.1	... +1.3	... 71.3	6	... 46.6	3	73
July	... 59.8	... 65.8	... 54.0	... 11.8	... 59.9	... —1.6	... 71.3	14	... 48.2	10	76
August	... 62.0	... 67.0	... 56.3	... 10.7	... 61.6	... +0.1	... 76.9	10	... 48.7	23	81
September	... 56.2	... 63.1	... 49.2	... 13.9	... 56.1	... —2.4	... 68.3	1, 19	... 39.4	21	78
October	... 54.1	... 59.4	... 50.2	... 9.2	... 54.8	... +2.2	... 67.7	5	... 42.1	20	86
November	... 43.0	... 49.4	... 37.7	... 11.7	... 43.5	... —3.1	... 54.4	6	... 30.2	10	83
December	... 46.4	... 50.5	... 43.4	... 7.1	... 46.9	... +3.8	... 54.3	11	... 31.1	28	88
Year	... 51.4	... 56.8	... 45.8	... 11.0	... 51.3	... +0.6	... 76.9	Aug. 10	... 20.3	Jan. 27	80

BRIGHT SUNSHINE.

As registered by the Campbell-Stokes Lense Burning Recorder.

1910.	Actual Sunshine	Difference from the Average	Greatest Daily Amount	Date	Days on which sun shone	Differ- ence from the Average	Sunless Days	Amount of Cloud
	Hours	Hours	Hours					0 to 10
January...	73.0	+ 8.5	8.3	30	21	—	10	7.1
February	108.3	+ 22.2	9.2	27	23	+ 4	5	7.2
March ...	184.8	+ 60.3	10.5	16	29	+ 4	2	5.6
April ...	157.3	— 14.0	11.9	29	27	+ 1	3	6.8
May ...	223.6	— 11.7	15.0	16	31	+ 2	0	6.7
June ...	197.0	— 31.3	14.8	3	27	—	3	6.4
July ...	183.1	— 68.4	14.2	4	27	— 3	4	6.6
August ...	177.6	— 59.2	13.3	10	30	+ 1	1	7.3
September	173.6	+ 7.3	11.4	3	29	+ 3	1	5.9
October...	73.6	— 35.9	8.8	3	23	— 2	8	7.2
November	96.3	— 18.2	8.0	9	21	— 1	9	6.7
December	45.5	— 4.6	7.2	27	19	— 7	12	7.3
Year ...	1693.7	— 107.6	15.0	May 16	307	+ 9	58	7.6

RAINFALL.

1910	Total Amount	Difference from the Average	Wet Days or falls of 0.01 in. or more	Difference from the Average	Mean Wet Day Rate of Rainfall	Greatest fall in 24 hours	Date of greatest fall.
	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>			<i>Inches</i>		
January ...	3.19	+0.94	17	+3	0.19	0.94	27
February ...	3.79	+1.92	22	+11	0.17	0.62	14
March ...	0.62	-1.41	8	-6	0.08	0.22	9
April ...	1.22	-0.53	15	+2	0.08	0.23	12
May ...	1.54	-0.24	14	+3	0.12	0.48	19
June ...	2.14	+0.43	8	-2	0.27	0.77	8
July ...	2.64	+0.94	15	+5	0.17	0.46	17
August ...	1.94	-0.20	16	+5	0.12	0.55	28
September ...	0.15	-1.93	3	-8	0.05	0.12	14
October ...	4.00	+0.10	19	+3	0.21	0.85	12
November ...	3.80	+0.95	22	+10	0.17	0.69	30
December ...	5.62	+2.64	25	+9	0.23	0.97	9
Year ...	30.65	+3.69	184	+35	0.16	0.97	Dec. 9

THE WINDS.

Observed daily to 16 points, but in table reduced to 8 points of the compass.

1910.		Velocity in Miles per hour		Direction, number of Observations—9 a.m. and 6 p.m.								
		Total	Mean per day	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calms.
January	...	12370	399	4	1	5	0	5	1	30	16	0
February	...	12528	448	8	0	1	0	0	10	24	13	0
March	...	9936	321	9	7	14	8	3	3	12	4	2
April	...	10316	344	10	6	13	4	1	8	13	5	0
May...	...	9864	318	13	7	12	6	1	2	11	8	2
June	...	9600	320	7	2	8	10	2	4	24	3	0
July...	...	10800	348	4	3	7	5	6	6	15	13	3
August	...	11904	384	3	1	5	3	2	7	26	13	2
September	...	9024	301	13	15	15	4	2	1	4	4	2
October	...	12480	403	6	9	22	3	7	2	6	5	2
November	...	12936	431	16	5	12	1	5	2	12	7	0
December	...	15528	501	15	0	7	2	6	9	13	10	0
Year	...	137286	376	108	56	121	46	40	55	190	101	13

DISTRICT RAINFALL.

1910	Portland (Easton)			Chickerell			Abbotsbury			Upwey		
	Total Depth	Greatest fall in 24 hours	Rainy Days	Total Depth	Greatest fall in 24 hours	Rainy Days	Total Depth	Greatest fall in 24 hours	Rainy Days	Total Depth	Greatest fall in 24 hours	Rainy Days
January ...	In. 3.22	In. .94 Date 27	22	In. 2.91	In. .80 Date 27	21	In. 3.28	In. 1.01 Date 27	23	In. 3.80	In. 1.07 Date 27	23
February ...	4.01	.85 14	24	3.03	.39 14, 22	23	3.80	.60 14	25	3.89	.59 22	25
March ...	0.76	.29 9	10	0.68	.27 9	10	0.83	.31 10	9	0.86	.28 9	9
April ...	1.35	.27 12	15	1.33	.20 18	11	1.74	.30 12	16	1.88	.29 12	19
May ...	1.94	.69 19	15	1.66	.50 19	18	2.16	.61 19	19	2.57	.57 19	18
June ...	2.09	.95 8	8	2.27	.83 8	8	1.98	.75 8	12	2.52	.71 8	15
July ...	3.56	1.29 17	15	2.63	.57 3	14	2.77	.57 3	14	3.27	.70 16	19
August ...	2.03	.71 28	16	2.15	.75 28	15	2.34	.76 28	17	2.98	.97 28	20
September ...	0.17	.14 14	2	0.18	.13 14	4	0.19	.09 15	3	0.32	.17 14	9
October ...	4.85	.81 27	18	4.02	.76 12	16	4.22	.75 12	20	4.56	.92 12	19
November ...	4.54	.86 23	19	3.80	.76 23	16	4.86	.90 23, 30	19	4.47	.76 23	19
December ...	5.27	.80 12	23	4.23	.56 8	25	5.44	.74 8	26	5.21	.82 8	25
Year ...	33.79	1.29 July 17	187	28.89	.83 June 8	181	33.61	1.01 Jan. 27	203	36.33	1.07 Jan. 27	220



